

HM THE SULTAN GREETES ERITREAN PRESIDENT

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



HM THE SULTAN CONGRATULATES PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, on the occasion of being sworn in as his country's prime minister. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments to Prime Minister Albanese, wishing him good health, happiness and success in carrying out his duties to realize the Australian people's aspirations of further progress and prosperity. His Majesty also wished the relations between the two countries further development and growth. -**ONA**



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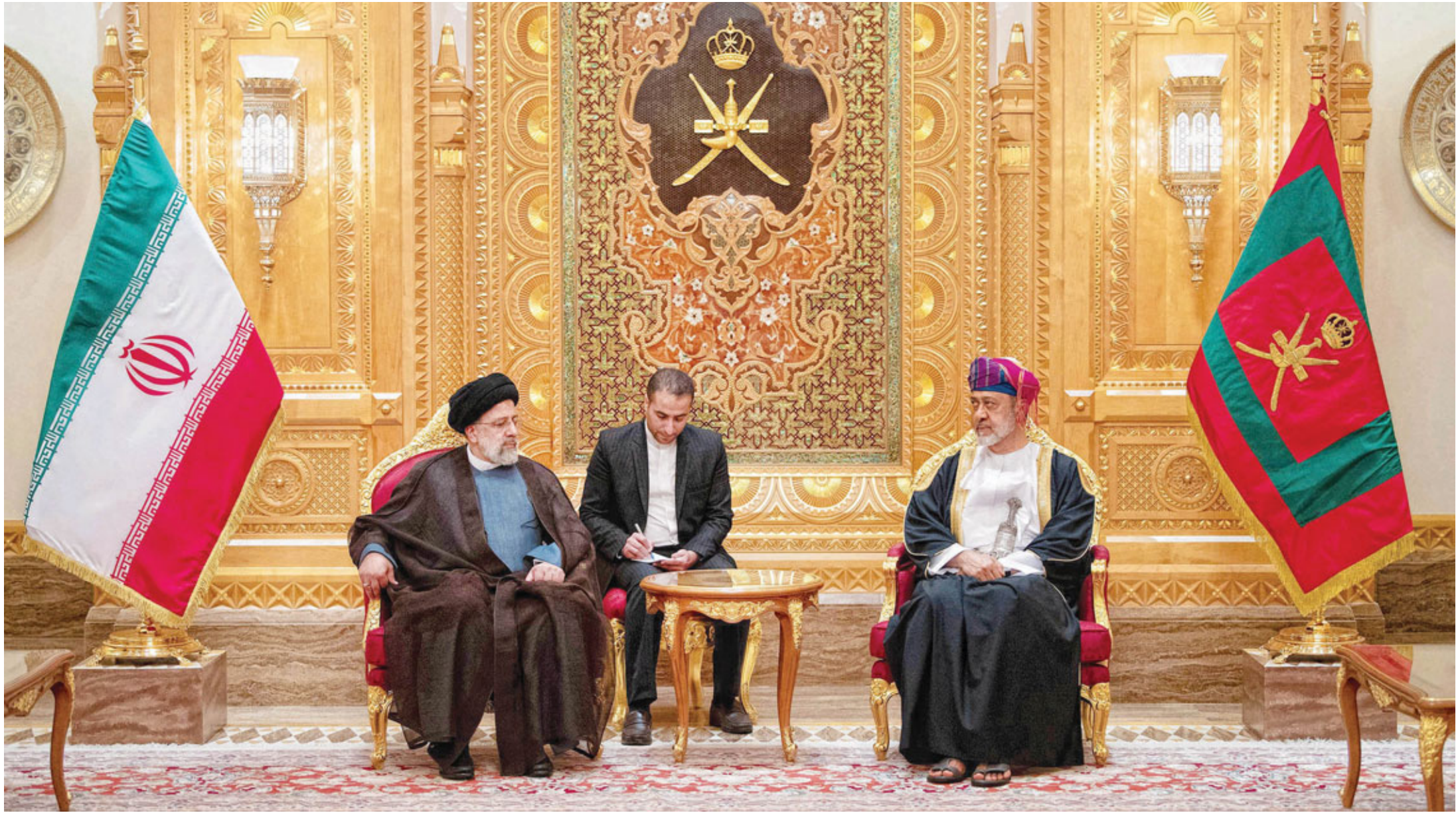
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The Iranian President extended an invitation to His Majesty the Sultan to visit Iran

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have reaffirmed the positive role of the private sector in augmenting the volume of investments and commercial exchange. They also laid emphasis on the significance of exerting more efforts to establish security and stability in the region and the world at large.

This was stated in a communiqué issued on the occasion of the visit of President Raisi to the Sultanate of Oman.

The communiqué reads as follows:

"In response to a fraternal invitation from His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, made an official visit to the Sultanate of Oman on Monday, 23 May 2022.

The visit stems from historically deep-rooted relations between Oman and Iran. It bolsters the already strong bilateral relations and reiterates mutual appreciation and respect between the leaderships of the two countries and their peoples, based on tenets of religion and ties of fraternity and good neighborliness.

A session of official talks was held by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The talks explored vistas of cooperation, bilateral relations and means of developing them in various spheres, notably commercial exchange and investment. They touched on coordination about areas of interest to the two countries. The two leaders expressed their satisfaction with the level of existing cooperation, and they decided to open up channels for new economic partnership.

The two leaders also expressed their delight over the high level of concord among the joint cooperation committees, and they issued directives for the committees to convene on a regular basis.

His Majesty the Sultan and the Iranian President underscored the positive role of the private

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sector in both countries to enhance joint activities, hoping that these activities will augment the rate of investment and trade exchange. The two leaders welcomed the signing of agreements and memoranda of understanding to streamline cooperation in the fields of investment, sports, agriculture, fisheries, livestock, maritime transport, ports, logistics, oil and gas.

His Majesty the Sultan and the

Iranian President also discussed a number of regional and international issues of common concern. They expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of existing political consultation and coordination at various fronts.

The two leaders called for exerting more efforts to maintain regional and international security and stability in the region and the world at large. They recommended coordination between the two sides—at regional and international events about issues of relevance to security and stability in the region and the world.

His Majesty the Sultan valued the policy of expanded, interactive and constructive interaction that stems from fundamentals of Iranian policy credited to the Iranian President and his government, as well as the policy of openness towards all countries, notably neighboring states. He

said that this approach leads to the establishment of positive relations based on mutual respect, cooperation and good neighborliness that bring about an exchange of economic, commercial and cultural benefits, while at the same time contributing to the consolidation of pillars of security and stability in the region.

The two sides underlined the need to curb all forms of terrorism and extremism.

At the conclusion of the visit, the Iranian President voiced his thanks to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, his government and the people of the Sultanate of Oman for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him.

The Iranian President extended an invitation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran. The invitation was ardently welcomed by His Majesty the Sultan. -**ONA**



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OMANI SWORD

His Majesty hosts luncheon in honour of Iranian President



His Majesty the Sultan presented an Omani Sword as a commemorative gift for the Iranian President

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik hosted an official luncheon at Al Alam Palace guest house on Monday in honour of Dr. Ebrahim Raisi, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of his visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

Prior to the luncheon, His Majesty the Sultan presented an Omani Sword as a commemorative gift for the Iranian President.

The luncheon was attended by the Royal Family members, ministers, chairmen of the State Council and Shura Council, commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces and the Royal Oman Police, as well as ambassadors of the Arab and friendly countries. -ONA

ONE-DAY TRIP

Iranian President concludes his visit



MUSCAT: President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi of the Islamic Republic of Iran left here on Monday after an official one-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

President Raisi and his accompanying delegation were seen off at the Royal Airport by HH Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan.

They were also seen off by Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (Head of the Mission of Honour), Ibrahim bin Ahmed Al Muaini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Islamic

Republic of Iran, Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman and members of the Mission of Honour.

During his visit to Oman, the Iranian President was accompanied by an official delegation comprising Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollaian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brigadier Mohammed Reza Gharaei, Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics, Sayed Reza Fatemi Amin, Minister of Industry, Minerals and Trade, Rostam Qasemi, Minister of Transport and Urban Development, Javad Oji, Minister of Oil, Ali Salehabadi, Governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Gholam-Hossein Esmaeili, Head of the Presidential Office, Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman, Abbas Moghtadaei, Deputy Chairman of the Parliament, Head of the Oman-Iran Parliamentary Friendship Committee and several Iranian officials. -ONA

CEREMONY

Oman, Germany mark 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman and Germany marked the 50th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations.

A ceremony was held at the Foreign Ministry on Monday to mark this occasion. The event, organised in cooperation with the German Embassy in Muscat, was attended by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, the Foreign Ministry's Undersecretary for Diplomatic Affairs



and Thomas Schneider, German Ambassador to Oman and several officials from both sides. A commemorative stamp was revealed during the ceremony to embody the advanced relations between the two countries. Oman and Germany laid the foundations of fruitful cooperation in political, diplomatic, economic and cultural fields since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1972. -ONA



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HIS MAJESTY THE SULTAN WELCOMES IRANIAN PRESIDENT DR. EBRAHIM

His Majesty the Sultan accompanied the President of Iran to the Dais of Honour where the Royal Anthem of Iran was played, while the artillery fired a 21-gun salute for Dr. Ebrahim Raisi

MUSCAT: President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi of the Islamic Republic of Iran arrived in the Sultanate of Oman on an official visit lasting one day.

The Iranian president was received with tremendous fanfare. His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik led the welcoming party for the Iranian President. When the jet of President Raisi touched ground at the Royal Airport, His Majesty the Sultan met the guest at the foot of the ramp, welcoming him and wishing him and his official delegation a pleasant stay in Oman.

Along with His Majesty the Sultan, the Iranian President was received by Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (Head of the Mission of Honour), Ibrahim bin Ahmed Al Muaini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman and members of the Mission of Honour.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan and the President of Iran headed to the reception hall, passing through two rows of the guard of honour of the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO).

After a short stay, the motor-

cade of His Majesty the Sultan and his guest President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi left the Royal Airport heading to Al Alam Palace for an official reception ceremony.

Before the arrival of the main vehicle of the motorcade at Al Alam Palace, a squadron of cavalry lined the two sides of the road heading to the gate of the palace.

Upon the arrival of the motorcade of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi at the entrance of Al Alam Palace, the RGO band played a welcoming tune, to the accompaniment of trumpets, as the motorcade entered the courtyard of Al Alam Palace.

His Majesty the Sultan accompanied the President of Iran to the Dais of Honour where the Royal Anthem of the Islamic Republic of Iran was played, while the artillery fired a 21-gun salute for the guest.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan shook hands with members of the official delegation accompanying the President of Iran, wishing them a pleasant stay.

In his turn, the guest shook hands with some members of the Royal Family, Chairmen of the State Council and Shura Council, ministers, commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) and the Royal Oman Police (ROP).

After that, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and President Dr. Ibrahim Raisi proceeded to the hall where they took Arabian coffee and exchanged cordial talks.

President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi is accompanied during his visit to



the Sultanate of Oman by an official delegation comprising Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brigadier Mohammed Reza Gharaei, Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics, Sayed Reza Fatemi Amin, Minister of Industry, Minerals and Trade, Rostam Qasemi,

Minister of Transport and Urban Development, Javad Oji, Minister of Oil, Ali Salehabadi, Governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Gholam-Hossein Esmaili, Head of the Presidential Office, Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman, Abbas Moghtadaei, Deputy

Chairman of the Parliament, Head of the Oman-Iran Parliamentary Friendship Committee and several Iranian officials.

The visit is an opportunity to explore areas of interest to the two neighbouring countries, with a view to realizing their aspirations. -ONA

BILATERAL COOPERATION

Oman, Iran explore ways to boost bilateral cooperation

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Monday held a round of official talks with President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi of the Islamic Republic of Iran at Al Alam Palace.

The talks explored various aspects of bilateral cooperation and ways of enhancing the strong ties binding the peoples of Oman and Iran. The aim is to exchange views about issues of common concern.

The official talks session was attended from the Omani side by His Highness Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan, His Highness Sayyid Taimour bin Asa'ad Al Said, Chairman of the Central Bank of Oman's Board of Governors, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Sultan bin Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Oufi, Head of the Private Office, Dr. Mohammed bin Hamad Al Rumhy, Minister of Energy and Minerals, Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology (Head of the Mission of Honour), Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Ibrahim bin Ahmed Al Muaini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It was attended from the Iranian side by Dr Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Brigadier Mohammed Reza Gharaei, Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics, Sayed Reza Fatemi Amin, Minister of Industry, Minerals and Trade, Rostam Qasemi, Minister of Transport and Urban Development, Javad Oji, Minister of Oil, Ali Salehabadi, Governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Gholam-Hossein Esmaili, Head of the Presidential Office, Ali Najafi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman, Abbas Moghtadaei, Deputy Chairman of the Parliament, Head of the Oman-Iran Parliamentary Friendship Committee and several Iranian officials.

Then, His Majesty the Sultan and President Raisi held a closed-door session. This session was attended from the Omani side by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Oufi, Head of the Private Office, Ibrahim bin Ahmed Al Muaini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

It was attended from the Iranian side by Dr Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mohammad Jamshidi, Deputy Head of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs and Ali Najafi, Ambassador of Iran to the Sultanate of Oman. -ONA





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MEETING

Iran President discusses global issues with Sayyid Fahd

MUSCAT: President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi of Iran met at Al Alam Palace guest house on Monday with His Highness Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers.

The meeting discussed areas of cooperation between the two countries and means of promoting them to serve the joint interests. They also exchanged views on some regional and international developments.

The meeting was attended by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and



Information Technology (Head of the Mission of Honour), Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Ibrahim bin Ahmed Al Muaini, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and members of the delegation accompanying the Iranian President. -ONA

JOINT COOPERATION

Al Nu'mani meets Iran minister

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office received at Al Alam Palace guest house today Brigadier Mohammed Reza Gharaei, Minister of Defence and Armed Forces Logistics in Iran.

The two sides reviewed the march of relations between Oman and Iran and explored areas of joint cooperation between the two countries. -ONA





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The site visit is scheduled on, 26th May 2022@ 10.00AM. Please contact Mr. Zahid, Director of Engineering @ 24764191 for the site visit.

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Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

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INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF CATERING AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES FOR ARMED FORCES HOSPITALS	14/2022	20/06/2022	27/06/2022	825 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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FACTS

Oman, Iran sign 8 MoUs

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman and Iran on Monday signed eight memoranda of understanding (MoU) and four cooperation programmes covering a range of fields. The pacts were inked on the sidelines of the current visit of Iranian President Dr. Ebrahim Raisi to Oman.

Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi and his Iranian counterpart Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian signed the first, second and third MoUs covering “diplomatic studies and training”, “radio and television” and “higher education, research and innovation”, respectively.

The fourth agreement, in the field of oil and gas, was signed by Dr. Mohammed Hamad Al Rumhy, Minister of Energy and Minerals, and Iran's Minister of Oil, Javad Owji.

The fifth MoU, in the field of transport, was signed by Eng. Said Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, and Rostam Qasemi, Minister of Transport and Urban Development.

The sixth, seventh and eighth MoUs were signed by Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, and Sayed Reza Fatemi Amin, Minister of Industry, Minerals and Trade covered the areas of “agriculture, livestock and fisheries”, “plant protection and agricultural quarantine” and “specifications, measurements and conformity assessment”.

Oman and Iran also signed four programmes of cooperation. The first, in the fields of trade, investment and services, was signed by Al Yousef and Fatemi.

The second, third and fourth, in the fields of “labour and em-



ployment”, “environment” and “sports” were signed by Sheikh Khalifa Ali Al Harthy, Foreign Ministry's Undersecretary for Diplomatic Affairs, and Iran's Ali Riza Biman Bak, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Industries.

Sayyid Badr said that “Omani-Iranian relations are deep-rooted in history and growing at a steady pace. The current visit of Iran's President to the Sultan-

ate of Oman reaffirms these relations and brings about a new set of programmes of cooperation in different fields.”

Sayyid Badr added that a new package of pacts will follow on the heels of the MoUs signed today. They will be unveiled later as an outcome of this visit.

In his turn, Al Yousef pointed out that a joint team will put in context the agreements signed by the two sides today. -ONA

REVIEW RELATIONS

Sayyid Badr holds meeting

MUSCAT: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister met at Al Alam Palace guest house Dr. Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

They reviewed relations of cooperation between the two countries and touched on regional and international issues of common concern. The meeting was attended by a number of officials from both sides. -ONA

POST-PANDEMIC

As masks come off, people breathe a sigh of relief

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Walk in to Dr Basheer's clinic at Badr Al Sama'a Hospital in Ruwi, and you will see him masked up, much as he was before the decision issued by the Supreme Committee on 22 May, regarding the removal of all curbs relating to COVID-19, including the wearing of masks, and limited seating at large-scale events.

There is, however, one key difference: Basheer and his colleagues are now wearing their masks voluntarily...a habit he feels will continue for a few months. Already, however, many people are enjoying the newfound relief that comes with the end of COVID protocols, because of what they represent.

“You will see people continue to wear masks out of habit or precaution for about another three or four months, and then they will wean themselves off this practice,” said Basheer, an internist by profession. “For medical facilities, there are as yet no guidelines in place, so my staff and I have voluntarily decided to continue wearing them.

“Among the patients, however, we saw far more people coming in without masks on, but we still recommend that those who have symptoms similar to fevers and colds still wear masks especially in hospitals, because these can be



transmitted through aerosols.”

A quick pop-in to most supermarkets shows that there is a significant drop in the number of people wearing masks...ditto for people entering restaurants.

“To me, the mask of course is a safety and precautionary measure,” said Hamed, an expatriate shopping mask-free at a department store in Qurum. “I understand why there was a need to enact mask-wearing around the world, but I think that as long as mask-wearing was a requirement, they also represented uncertainty because they were so closely linked with the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Mohsin, an Omani national, added: “Step by step, more and

more measures taken during the COVID-19 pandemic have been lifted, as the impact has eased over time. With the lifting of each measure, we were provided more hope and positivity for the future. I think one of the biggest steps taken was the return of children to physical classes, because that represented hope for both us and our children.

“Similarly, the announcement concerning the removal of masks, as well as other precautionary mechanisms such as social distancing, is a great step towards normalcy,” he said. “Of course, I am aware that it will mean different things for different people, and let us not forget the lessons that we have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, so that we are not destined to repeat our mistakes again.”

As part of the lifting of these measures, the Supreme Committee also advised people in Oman to take the third (booster) dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. In the event someone experiences fever-like or respiratory symptoms, they are advised to stay at home, prevent mingling with others, and wear a face mask while in crowded places.

The regulations concerning the compulsory wearing of face masks have also been lifted in mosques, where everyone, including children aged 12 and under, can enter.

Tender Announcement

MUSCAT ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY S.A.O.C INVITES INTERESTED COMPANIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FOLLOWING TENDER

Tender No.	Description	Last Date of Buying	Date of Submission	Grade	Site Visit	Attendee	Tender Price (R.O)
MEDC 06/2022	Construction of New 3x20MVA Mabelah South PH-9 (P184) Primary Substation	08/06/2022	28/06/2022	A	Site visit for on 13/6/2022 AM 9.00 @ at MEDC Head Office	- One Electrical Engineer - One Civil Engineer - One Protection Engineer with Full PPE	1575

The table below shows the instructions for participation: -

Participation	- Companies registered with Tender Board and in I Supplier may obtain Tender documents. - The amount specified above is including 5 % VAT. - For companies holding valid Riyada card, the payment for tender fees will be 393.750 OMR - The amount specified above is Non-Refundable payment (Terms and Condition apply) - to obtain the tender document and payment procedure , please visit MEDC Website/Vendor/E-Tendering, www.medcoman.com or call 24588600 – Ext: 8577 - 8726
Enquiries	- Any inquiry can be sent to MEDC Website/Vendor/E-Tendering, www.medcoman.com , one week before bid submission date - Any request for clarification received after the above-mentioned period will not be considered.
Tender Submission Guarantee	Please follow SUBMISSION OF TENDER mentioned in clause 20.0 in Prime Document and to the supplier guideline available MEDC Website/Vendor/E-Tendering, www.medcoman.com - The Tender should enclose a bank guarantee or a certified cheque issued by any bank in the Sultanate of Oman Unconditional and irrevocable and shall be disbursement as soon as it is submitted for the value of (1%) of the tender value valid for a period of at least ninety (90) days from the last date of tender submission and addressed to the CHAIRMAN OF MINOR TENDER COMMITTEE, MUSCAT ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY S.A.O.C. - The bid bond should be included in the commercial proposal only. - Any tender not accompanied by a Tender Bond shall be rejected.
Terms and Conditions	- Tenders received after the deadline stated in the Invitation to Tender, including any extension thereof, for any reason whatsoever will not be considered - The Tender shall be valid for a period of at least ninety (90) days from the last date of tender submission including any extension thereof. - If the submission date extended, the bank guarantee or a certified cheque shall be extended in accordance with the bid extension date. - MEDC is not bound to accept the lowest (or highest) Tenderer. - Preference of awarding the tender will be given to those bidders who achieved a high percentage of purchasing from Local Products and have a High-level percentage of Omanization - Muscat Electricity Distribution Company gives priority to award the projects to SMEs companies. - For projects whose value is less than OMR 10K, the priority to award will be given to registered companies that hold a valid certificate Of Reyadah. - Failure to comply with the instructions in tender document may lead to disqualification.
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Dhofar Integrated Services Company S.A.O.C (DISC) invites reputable contractor for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.

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Experience	The Tenderer must show minimum 3 years previous experience in performing similar jobs in the past with Site survey, meter installation, and meter Replacement of electrical works.
Pre-qualification	The Tenderer should be a registered business owner with proper commercial registration with ministry of commerce. The Tenderer may have an agreement with a Subcontractor with minimum DCRP – C grade contractor for carrying out meter replacement works.
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 7 th June 2022
Site Visit	-
Last date for seeking pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 15 th June 2022
Last date for providing pre-bid clarifications	03:00 PM on 19 th June 2022
Last date for submission of bids	03:00 PM on 26 th June 2022
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, purchase@disc.nama.om

Tenderers are requested to note that the bids accompanied with Tender Bond (1% of the quoted bid price and having 90 days validity) shall only be considered for evaluation.



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ASHA (which means hope in Hindi) are the more than 1 million female volunteers in India.

They were honoured for their crucial role in linking the community with the health system and ensuring those living in rural poverty can access primary health care services, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

ASHAs worked to provide maternal care and immunization for children against vaccine-prevent-

able diseases; community health care; treatment for hypertension and tuberculosis; and core areas of health promotion for nutrition, sanitation, and healthy living, said WHO in its official statement.

Praising the ASHA workers, Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia said, “ASHAs are true cham-

pions of health who help bring primary health care to the doorstep of people. Their work has always been exemplary, especially during the pandemic. I congratulate this one million-plus all-women workforce for this truly deserving recognition.”

The ceremony for the awards, which were established in 2019, was part of the live-streamed high-

level opening session of the 75th World Health Assembly.

The WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has announced six Global Health Leaders Awards.

Dr Tedros himself decides on the awardees for the World Health Organization Director-General's Global Health Leaders Awards.

“At a time when the world is facing an unprecedented convergence of inequity, conflict, food insecurity, the climate crisis and a pandemic, this award recognizes those who have made an outstanding contribution to protecting and promoting health around the world,” said WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. **ANI**

21-DAY QUARANTINE

Belgium becomes first country to introduce monkeypox quarantine

BRUSSELS: Belgium has become the first country to make the 21-day quarantine compulsory for the monkeypox patients after four cases of the disease have been reported last week.

The Belgian health authorities took this decision on Friday, Saudi Gazette reported citing Belgian media. Monkeypox is a disease in the same family as smallpox and symptoms include a distinct bumpy rash, a fever, sore muscles and a headache. Monkeypox is less deadly than smallpox, with a mortality rate below 4 per cent, but experts are worried about the unusual spread of the disease beyond Africa where it usually circulates.

The Belgian Institute of Tropical Medicine has said that the risk of a larger outbreak in the country is low, according to Saudi Gazette citing Belgian daily Le Soir.

Taking to Twitter, the microbiologist Emmanuel Andre, who is in charge of the National Reference lab for COVID-19 in Belgium on Saturday, said that the fourth case has been confirmed in the country.

“This patient is being treated in Wallonia and is linked to the Antwerp event in which two other people were infected,” he tweeted referring to a festival in the port city held in May.

Meanwhile, on Saturday, the World Health Organization reported that there were a total of 92 confirmed cases in 12 different countries, with 28 suspected cases under investigation. Cases of monkeypox have been confirmed in the UK, Portugal, Sweden, Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, the US, Canada and Australia, as reported by Saudi Gazette.

On May 7, a case of monkeypox has been confirmed in England, in a patient who recently travelled from Nigeria, as per the UK Health Security Agency.

On May 18, the US Massachusetts Department of Public Health confirmed a single case of monkeypox virus infection in an adult male with recent travel to Canada. **ANI**



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AC Milan crowned Serie A champions after a gap of 11 years

The long wait ended for the Italian giants in the space of 90 flawless minutes

MILAN: AC Milan on Sunday won the 2021/22 Serie A after a 3-0 victory over Sassuolo.

This is Rossoneri's first Serie A title in 11 years.

The long old wait ended for the Italian giants in the space of 90 flawless minutes. It was the perfect match that handed AC Milan the 19th Scudetto in their history.

Against Sassuolo, the Rossoneri dominated a first half that saw Olivier Giroud bag a brace and Frank Kessie find the net with a fine finish.

The second half was comfortable and always under Diavolo's control. The final scoreline read 3-0 with a clean sheet to top it off.

A tally of 86 points (the Rossoneri have never achieved more in a Scudetto triumph) and a great run of wins to end the season, dominating with confidence and maturity and always rising to the occasion when it mattered most.



CHAMPIONS: It was the perfect match that handed AC Milan the 19th Scudetto in their history.

FRENCH OPEN



Alcaraz goes past Londero, Zverev enters round two

PARIS: Spanish teen sensation Carlos Alcaraz on Sunday kicked off his French Open campaign with a win as he trounced Juan Ignacio Londero 6-4, 6-2, 6-0 on his Court Philippe Chatrier debut.

The teenager has taken the tennis world by storm this season with four titles, becoming the only player to defeat Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic back-to-back in Madrid. German third seed Alexander Zverev started his French Open campaign on Sunday with a clinical performance in a 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 win against Austrian qualifier Sebastian Ofner.

Tallon Griekspoor also reached the second round on his Paris debut, upsetting 25th seed Alejandro Davidovich Fokina 2-6, 6-0, 6-4, 6-3.

Sakkari, Fernandez, Bencic cruise into second round
No.4 seed Maria Sakkari of Greece started her French Open

2022 campaign on Sunday with a win over Clara Burel in their first-round match on Court Philippe Chatrier.

It took Sakkari one hour and 28 minutes to defeat Burel 6-2, 6-3. Sakkari fired 24 winning points, nearly double her French opponent's 13 whom she also broke five times. The victory marks Sakkari's 20th match-win of the season so far. She will next face Czech Karolina Muchova in the second round on Wednesday.

On the same day, Switzerland's Belinda Bencic dominantly advanced into the second round with a 6-1, 6-1 win over Reka Luca Jani of Hungary.

Leylah Fernandez was next seen in action. She won her first-round match overcoming France's Kristina Mladenovic 6-0, 7-5 on Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Fernandez will face Czech Republic's Katerina Siniakova in the second round, in their first meeting. **ANI**

PREMIER LEAGUE

Liverpool confirm signing Fabio Carvalho from Fulham

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool FC on Monday confirmed that Fabio Carvalho will join the Merseyside club this summer.

The 19-year-old forward will officially complete a switch to the Reds on July 1.

Carvalho played a key role in Fulham's promotion back to the Premier League in 2021-22, scoring 10 goals and providing eight assists in 36 games as Marco Silva's side won the Championship title.

He had featured for the Cot-



tagers in the top flight on four occasions in the previous season, marking his first Premier League start with a goal away at Southampton in May 2021.

An exciting talent born in the Lisbon region of Portugal, Carvalho made his debut for Portugal U21s in March of this year having previously represented England at the youth level.

Carvalho came through the academy ranks at Fulham and went on to make 44 senior appearances in total for the London club.

Kamara signs five-year contract with Aston Villa

Aston Villa on Monday announced the signing of Boubacar Kamara on a five-year contract.

The 22-year-old midfielder, who has just won his first call-up to the France national team after a fantastic season at Olympique Marseille, will join Villa following the expiry of his contract with the French club. Kamara came through the youth ranks at Marseille, going on to rack up well over a century of appearances for the

first team, which made him one of the most in-demand young players in European football. He played a key role in this season's Ligue 1 campaign for Marseille when they were runners-up and in a successful run to the Europa League semi-finals. Head Coach Steven Gerrard said: "I am delighted that we have been able to attract one of the most promising young talents in European football. We have a very clear plan to make our team stronger and Bouba is an important part of that." **ANI**

HOCKEY

India concede late goal against Pakistan, match ends in a draw

JAKARTA: A young Indian men's hockey team opened its title defence with a 1-1 draw against arch-rivals Pakistan in their first group A match of the Asia Cup at the GBK Stadium here on Monday.

Selvam Karthi (eighth minute) scored his first international goal for India, while Pakistan equalised through Abdul Rana's (59th) penalty corner strike. In the first quarter, there were several penalty corners for both teams. While Pakistan secured two, India managed three and scored of the last one.

India took the lead in the eighth minute through debutant Karthi, who scored his first international goal from a penalty corner. After the start of the second quarter, India had the first shy at the goal but an alert Pakistan goalkeeper Akmal Hussain made a quick save from close range to keep out Pawan Rajbhar's effort.

India secured a penalty corner in the second quarter in the 21st minute but the title holders failed to convert the chance into another goal. In the 28th minute, Pakistan too got a penalty corner, their third, but they again failed to stop the push and wasted a bright chance.

After the change of ends, Pakistan started on an attacking note, albeit for a brief period, and secured a penalty corner but Rizwan Ali's shot went wide.

India's goalkeeper Suraj Karkera then saved an effort from Abdul Rana from close quarters. Indians again took control of the



proceedings and secured a handful of penalty corners but they failed to get past an alert Hussain in front of Pakistan goal and the scores remained tied after the third quarter.

With little over a minute to go for the final hooter, India conceded a penalty corner and Rana scored from a rebound to draw parity. "I think India could not read our strategies. I am quite satisfied with how we performed and played disciplined hockey with good structure," Pakistan's newly-appointed coach Siegfried Aikman said.

With World Cup ticket at stake, Malaysia and Korea made

a winning start to their campaign here on the opening day of the Asia Cup at the GBK Arena, Jakarta on Monday.

Riding on a hat-trick of goals by penalty corner specialist Razie Rahim in the 6th, 13th and 19th minute, Malaysia posted a strong 7-0 win in their first pool B match.

In another match of the day, Japan beat hosts Indonesia 9-0. As many as four goals were scored by Koji Yamasaki (15', 21', 22', 35'). Yoshiaki Krishita (7') scored the first goal for Japan followed by Ken Nagayoshi (8'), Ryoma Ooka (10'), Ryosei Kato and Takuma Niwa (33'). **ANI**

GOLDEN GLOVE AWARD

Ederson, Becker share Premier League Golden Glove award

LONDON: Manchester City's Ederson and Liverpool's Alisson Becker has won the coveted Premier League Golden Glove award after keeping 20 clean sheets this season.

Both keepers shared the accolade after recording 20 shutouts in the league. It is the third successive year that Ederson has won the prize, having done so in 2019/20 and 2020/21. Incredibly, with 91 shutouts in 182 Premier League appearances for City, Ederson averages a clean sheet in every other game. In reaching 20 this season, he has also equalled his own personal record set in 2018/19.

Alisson got his second Golden Glove award in the Premier League, with the Brazilian winning his first Golden Glove in his debut season with the Reds.

Manchester City have been



crowned 2021/22 Premier League champions - their fourth title success in the last five seasons.

City's dramatic 3-2 win over Aston Villa in the final game of

the season sealed the title and saw them finish one point ahead of second-place Liverpool at the end of a gruelling battle for supremacy. **ANI**

SRI LANKA VS BANGLADESH

Kusal Mendis out of second Test against Bangladesh due to severe chest pain

MIRPUR: Sri Lanka batter Kusal Mendis on Monday abruptly left the field after he complained of chest pain during the second Test against Bangladesh, here at the Shere Bangla National Stadium on Monday.

In the 23rd over, Kusal was laid down on the ground due to chest pain and got hospitalised in Dhaka.

According to ESPNcricinfo, the BCB doctor Manzur Hos-

sain Chowdhury stated that the right handed batter will be kept in proper diagnosis and better management.

It was further stated that Kusal was suffering from dehydration which can be the reason for the chest pain.

Kusal performed well in the first Test match where he scored a much needed half-century in first innings and 48 in second innings which helped Sri Lanka to draw

first test match in Chattogram.

Earlier during the first Test, playing conditions in Sri Lanka were extremely hot due to which Tamim Iqbal retired hurt as he suffered from severe cramps. Richard Kettleborough on field umpire also left the field on Day 4 because of the heat.

So far on Day 1 of the second Test, Bangladesh opted to bat first and scored 243 runs with the loss of five wickets. **ANI**

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

Oman oil price (July Delivery 2022) on Monday reached \$109.96, comprising a rise by \$1.45 from the price of last Friday, which was at \$108.51. The average price of Oman oil (May Delivery 2022) has stabilised at \$110.96, thus \$19 per barrel higher than April Delivery 2022. - ONA

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,133.32 points, down by 0.17 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.53 per cent at 464.55 points. Construction Materials, up 5.56 per cent, was the top gainer while, A'Saffa Foods, down 8.57 per cent, was the top loser.

TECH SHOW



THREE-DAY EVENT: The exhibition for the first time includes a designated area for startup companies comprising 71 firms. - ONA

Comex 2022 showcases innovations in technology

MUSCAT: The Comex 2022 technology exhibition, in its 31st edition, kick started on Monday at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre (OCEC).

The three-day event's opening ceremony was held under the auspices of Dr. Kahmis Saif Al Jabri, Head of Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up unit.

Al Jabri said that the event introduces the latest advanced technologies in line with Oman's drive towards a digital economy, which is vital to realising the priorities of Oman Vision 2040.

Dr. Ali Amer Al Shidhani, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology for Communications and Information Technology said that this exhibition coincides with Muscat being picked as the Arab Digital Capital 2022. He also pointed out that the event sees wide participation by government units.



The exhibition, for the first time, includes a designated area for startup companies, comprising 71 firms. This allows the participating companies, which come from all over the Arab World, to display their achievements and services.

An international conference on AI will be held on Tuesday to explore the uses of AI in various fields, as well as the challenges of

using it in digital transformation.

Meanwhile, a ceremony will be held this Wednesday to hand over prizes of excellence in technology to honor ministries, government companies and private companies which tremendously advanced technology in Oman. The prizes cover several categories, namely AI, 3D printing, internet of things (IoT), data and automated education and large data. - ONA

STOCK MARKET

India's Sensex closes 38 points lower

MUMBAI: The Indian stock markets key indices, Sensex and Nifty, closed in the red in a volatile session on Monday after the government announced a slew of fiscal measures on the weekend to ease

inflationary pressure.

The 30 stock S&P BSE Sensex closed 37.78 points or 0.07 per cent down at 54,288.61 points against its previous session's close at 54,326.39 points. The markets

witnessed a volatile session. The Sensex started the day on a positive note at 54,459.95 points. Volatility was seen in the markets from the morning itself.

- ANI

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

The Internal Tender Committee at the Ministry of Labour announces the following tender:

Tender No.	Tender title	Last date for tender purchase online	Bid submission date	Document's Fee
05/2022	Maintenance and modification works at Samail Labour Department	Sunday 12/06/2022 at 2:00 pm	Thursday 30/06/2022 at 10 a.m.	RO 25/-

- Specialized establishments may obtain the tender's documents online through the following link, starting from Monday 23/05/2022 at 07:30 am: [/https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om](https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om)
- Each bid shall enclose a bank guarantee for 1% of the total bid value issued by a local bank addressed to the Ministry of Labour and valid for 90 days from the date of bid submission.
- Bids shall be submitted online along with a copy of the bank guarantee.
- Bids shall be opened at 11:00 am on the same day.

(The Ministry shall not be bound to accept the lowest or any other bid)

labour_OMAN

E-Auction Notice.
e-Auction for Sale of used Mobiles, Fixed, Transmission, Switching & Power Equipment

Oman Telecommunications Company (S.A.O.G),
P.O. Box 789, Postal Code 112, Muscat,
Sultanate of Oman hereby gives notice of the Auction as follows: -

Reference Number	Description	Site Visit	Offers Submission Date
RFI #86	E-Auction for Sale of used Mobiles, Fixed, Transmission, Switching & Power Equipment from Omantel Al Sharqiya South & North and Al Wasta Region Exchange/Sites for 5 Sites	Location per Area 24 to 30 May 2022 SUR EXCH (POI) Bani bu .HASSAN EXCH (POI) TIWI Sinaw - Mudhaibi Exch Al Muntrib - Al Qabil	1 st June 2022

The invitation to this Bid is open to all international and Local contractors specialized in this field.

- Bidders who are interested to participate in this auction are requested to submit their pre-qualification details online (RFI Number 86) on Omantel e-tendering system (<https://tenders.omantel.om>). Companies that are not registered on Omantel e-tendering system are requested to register themselves in order to qualify/participate in the e-auction.
- The auction will be conducted online on Omantel eTendering platform at <https://tenders.omantel.om>. The date and time of e-Auction shall be informed to shortlisted bidders based on evaluation of pre-qualification submissions.
- A maximum of 2 participants will be allowed per vendor to enter the premises during the site visit.
- Shortlisted bidders will be requested to submit a bid bond or certified cheque valid for 90 days from the date of submission addressed to GM-Strategic Sourcing & Procurement Omantel, prior to the date of e-auction.
- The details of the e-auction and the required registration/training will be provided to the shortlisted bidders before the e-auction.
- For auction enquiries, requests for clarifications and site visit, please contact Mr. Yousuf Al Rawahi on 92805080.

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MARKET



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MSX index ends lower

Construction Materials, up 5.56 per cent, was the top gainer while, A'Saffa Foods, down 8.57 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,133.32 points, down 0.17 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.53 per cent at 464.55 points. Construction Materials, up 5.56 per cent, was the top gainer while, A'Saffa Foods, down 8.57 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Oman Telecom were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 551 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR4.08 million. Out of 47 traded securities, 7 advanced, 19 declined, and 21 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for OMR956,432 while foreign investors were net sellers for OMR483,000, followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR473,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6,567.97 points, down 0.04 per cent. Prices of OMINVEST, Oman Qatar Insurance, AlAnwar Investment, Al Madina Takaful and Ahli Bank were up by 1.94 per cent, 1.87 per cent, 1.27 per cent and 1.08 per cent respectively. Prices of United Finance, Al Sharqia Investment, Oman United Insurance, Muscat Finance and HSBC Bank Oman were down by 3.33 per cent, 2.22 per cent, 1.72 per cent, 1.41 per cent and 0.89 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,040.44 points, down 0.64 per cent. Construction Materials was the only gainer up by 5.56 per cent. Prices of A'Saffa Foods, Galfar Engineering, Oman Fisheries, Raysut Cement and Al Maha Ceramics were down by 8.57 per cent, 3.7 per cent, 2.54 per cent, 1.73 per cent and 1.54 per cent respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,143.21	4,133.32	4,133.32	4,140.44	-7.12	-0.17
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,586.49	6,560.68	6,567.97	6,570.32	-2.35	-0.04
Industry Index	6,077.03	6,040.44	6,040.44	6,079.24	-38.80	-0.64
Services Index	1,613.37	1,606.13	1,606.98	1,613.37	-6.39	-0.40
MSX Shariah Index	472.03	464.55	464.55	471.79	-7.24	-1.53
MSX TR INDEX	5,219.13	5,206.67	5,206.67	5,215.64	-8.97	-0.17
FINANCIAL TR IDX	6,886.21	6,859.21	6,866.84	6,869.30	-2.46	-0.04
SERVICES TR IDX	1,662.52	1,655.06	1,655.94	1,662.52	-6.58	-0.40
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,266.93	6,268.96	6,268.96	6,309.23	-40.27	-0.64

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
13,685,211	4,075,486	551	22,387,823,925	7	19	21	47

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, MAY 23

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM00000001533	OMINVEST	5,250	1,659	2	0.316	0.316	0.316	0.316	0.310	0.006	1.935	0.316	0.310	0.316	0.100	211,203,475
OM00000002226	ALJAZERA SERVICES	17,939	4,871	7	0.272	0.272	0.271	0.272	0.271	0.001	0.369	0.271	0.271	0.277	0.100	16,647,562
OM0000001740	OMAN CEMENT	60,001	15,308	12	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.000	0.255	0.255	0.260	0.100	84,372,541	
OM00000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	61,550	26,424	6	0.430	0.430	0.428	0.430	0.430	0.000	0.000	0.428	0.428	0.430	0.100	94,600,000
OM00000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	67,700	25,047	7	0.370	0.370	0.368	0.370	0.370	0.000	0.000	0.368	0.368	0.376	0.100	46,212,245
OM00000003000	AI MAHA MARKETING	13,000	8,540	2	0.680	0.680	0.680	0.680	0.680	0.000	0.680	0.672	0.696	0.100	46,520,000	
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV. H.	153,059	107,713	12	0.070	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.100	14,000,000
OM00000003224	RENAISSANCE SER.	82,025	35,251	4	0.430	0.430	0.428	0.430	0.430	0.000	0.000	0.428	0.428	0.440	0.100	101,656,300
OM00000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	816,902	89,693	22	0.110	0.110	0.109	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.109	0.109	0.111	0.100	328,906,852
OM00000003968	QOREDOO	88,075	28,837	12	0.326	0.328	0.326	0.328	0.328	0.000	0.000	0.328	0.328	0.346	0.100	213,508,707
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	985,322	516,909	28	0.524	0.526	0.524	0.524	0.524	-0.002	-0.380	0.524	0.524	0.526	0.100	196,676,030
OM00000003026	OMAN TELECOM	2,590,420	2,338,282	34	0.868	0.868	0.860	0.864	0.868	-0.004	-0.461	0.860	0.860	0.868	0.100	648,000,000
OM00000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	1,427,303	284,217	11	0.199	0.200	0.199	0.199	0.200	-0.001	-0.500	0.200	0.199	0.203	0.100	323,563,325
OM00000001525	OMAN INVST&FIN.	55,831	8,040	11	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.145	-0.001	-0.690	0.144	0.144	0.145	0.100	34,128,000
OM00000003005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	113,952	58,343	3	0.512	0.512	0.512	0.512	0.508	-0.004	-0.781	0.512	0.512	0.512	0.100	28,160,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR.	26,000	8,874	7	0.346	0.346	0.340	0.340	0.348	-0.008	-2.312	0.340	0.340	0.342	0.100	101,342,000
OM00000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	97,100	8,515	11	0.090	0.090	0.087	0.088	0.090	-0.002	-2.222	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.100	792,000
Total	17	6,661,459	3,369,822	191												

Parallel Market

OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION M.	927,444	70,406	62	0.073	0.078	0.073	0.076	0.072	0.004	5.556	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.100	4,750,000
OM0000000879	OMAN QATAR INSUR	180,529	34,975	6	0.214	0.218	0.214	0.218	0.214	0.004	1.869	0.218	0.218	0.218	0.100	21,800,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	675,400	54,932	17	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.079	0.001	1.266	0.080	0.079	0.080	0.100	16,000,000
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	1,250,400	117,538	37	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.093	0.001	1.075	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.100	16,450,000
OM0000001095	DHOFAIR INSURANCE	10,000	1,900	1	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.100	19,000,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	2,000	280	1	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.142	0.142	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.138	0.141	0.100	12,070,000
OM0000003139	ALUMINIUM PROD.	23,500	2,045	5	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.000	0.087	0.085	0.087	0.100	2,920,716
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM COM	2,176	424	2	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.100	8,321,054
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MRK	2,450	2,019	1	0.824	0.824	0.824	0.884	0.884	0.000	0.000	0.824	0.824	0.880	0.100	83,980,000
OM0000002386	AL BATINAH DEV.	591	27	1	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.047	0.047	0.000	0.000	0.045	0.045	0.051	0.100	1,410,000
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAIR	56,000	6,440	5	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.000	0.000	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.100	344,580,415
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	786,802	75,038	21	0.095	0.096	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.096	0.100	212,510,538
OM0000004689	SHARQIAH DESALIN	15,960	1,756	1	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.110	0.099	0.110	0.100	10,758,238
OM0000004833	AL SUNWADI POWER	316,680	15,725	14	0.050	0.051	0.049	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.049	0.055	0.100	35,720,317
OM0000002333	SALALAH PORT SR.	137,438	76,416	1	0.556	0.556	0.556	0.556	0.560	-0.004	-0.714	0.556	0.000	0.556	0.100	99,989,594
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	50,826	5,693	5	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.113	-0.001	-0.885	0.112	0.107	0.112	0.100	17,421,645
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	622,318	69,348	16	0.111	0.112	0.111	0.111	0.112	-0.001	-0.893	0.111	0.111	0.112	0.100	222,034,720
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	629,970	44,254	33	0.070	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.071	-0.001	-1.408	0.071	0.070	0.072	0.100	21,500,243
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	64,700	10,969	4	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.173	0.173	-0.003	-1.734	0.170	0.167	0.190	0.100	34,000,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	250,000	12,035	22	0.049	0.049	0.048	0.048	0.049	-0.001	-2.041	0.048	0.048	0.049	0.100	32,394,597
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	57,100	2,512	4	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.044	0.045	-0.001	-2.222	0.044	0.042	0.046	0.100	8,783,968
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	234,501	27,046	19	0.116	0.118	0.116	0.114	0.118	-0.003	-2.542	0.116	0.114	0.116	0.100	20,639,016
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	209,000	14,732	17	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.072	-0.002	-2.778	0.070	0.070	0.071	0.100	66,820,037
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	21,863	1,898	3	0.087	0.087	0.085	0.087	0.090	-0.003	-3.333	0.085	0.085	0.088	0.100	30,375,564
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	100,900	10,464	6	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.108	-0.004	-3.704	0.104	0.104	0.109	0.100	21,110,590
OM0000002804	A'SAFFA FOODS	225,375	28,636	46	0.126	0.131	0.126	0.128	0.140	-0.012	-8.571	0.127	0.127	0.129	0.100	15,360,000
Total	26	6,832,013	686,665	350												

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE



FAMILIARISATION VISIT: Eng. Ali Al Maashani, Director General of Al Mazunah Free Zone, briefed the committee on the free zone and its projects. — Supplied picture

Key committee of Majlis Al Shura visits Al Mazunah Free Zone

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A delegation representing the Economic and Financial Committee of Majlis Al Shura visited Al Mazunah Free Zone to get familiarised with the ongoing and future projects that are planned by the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Mada'yn) in Al Mazunah.

Eng. Ali Al Maashani, Director General of Al Mazunah Free Zone, briefed the committee on the free zone and its projects, and elaborated on the incentives that are offered to the investors in the

free zone. These incentives include customs' exemptions, 100 per cent foreign ownership, no minimum capital requirements, and the Omanisation rate stands at 10 per cent.

More incentives

More incentives include easy access of individuals and investors to the free zone without entry visas being required for Yemenis, facilitation of employing Yemeni workforce without work visa being required, in addition to other incentives.

A number of service projects

are currently being implemented in Al Mazunah Free Zone including new road network, water tanks and network, fiber optic network, and electricity and drainage networks. The facility building project, which is valued at more than OMR3 million, is also expected to be completed by end of this year.

The committee was also introduced to the tasks undertaken by the customs area in the free zone including the handling operations that are managed by Al Madina Logistics Services Company.

UK investors keen to invest in Saudi Arabia



RIYADH: The CEO of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), Dr. Hisham bin Saad Aljadhey, has met a number of CEOs of British companies, businessmen and representatives of the private sector during his recent official visit to the United Kingdom.

During the visit, discussions went over the challenges and obstacles that investors may face in the food, drug, and medical devices and products sectors, as well as the initiatives provided by the SFDA to facilitate procedures for investors, and work to remove all obstacles that may hinder the work of facilities, in line with the Kingdom's Vision 2030.

SFDA stressed the importance of attracting investments in the pharmaceutical sector by enhancing intellectual property protection for innovative pharmaceutical products, increasing the level of transparency in registration procedures, enhancing the level of confidence in intellectual property protection procedures, and working to increase the number of innovative international companies that fully manufacture many of their products in local factories, or factories established by those companies in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. — SPA

EQUITY MARKETS

Asian shares

TOKYO: Shares were mostly higher in Asia in cautious trading Monday after Wall Street dipped once again to the edge of a bear market, the Associated Press reported.

Tokyo and Sydney gained Monday while Hong Kong declined. Shanghai was little changed and US futures were 1% higher.

The Nikkei 225 in Tokyo gained one per cent to 27,001.52. South Korea's Kospi climbed 0.3 per cent to 2,647.38.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 edged 0.1 per cent higher to 7,148.90.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index lost 1.4 per cent to 20,424.70 while the Shanghai Composite index was nearly unchanged at 3,146.86.



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No difference was observed between milk and water. Therefore, the conclusion from this study is that vitamin D fortification works better in water or milk than in juice

MILK AND WATER ARE MOST EFFICIENT VEHICLES FOR ABSORBING VITAMIN D

According to a new study, milk and water are the most efficient vehicles for absorbing vitamin D.

The findings were presented at the 24th European Congress of Endocrinology in Milan, Italy.

Vitamin D insufficiency has been linked with multiple health issues, including the immune response to COVID-19. Estimates show that as much as 40 per cent of the European population could be suffering from vitamin D deficiencies, with 13 per cent potentially suffering from severe vitamin D deficiency.

Vitamin D supplements are therefore vital – and knowing whether they will be absorbed and how best to aid absorption is crucial.

To answer this question, Dr Rasmus Espersen of Aarhus University in Denmark and his colleagues conducted a randomised trial on 30 postmenopausal women aged 60-80 with vitamin D deficiency.

The study aimed to measure immediate changes in blood concentrations in response to the consumption of various food

items containing 200 g D3. In random order, 500 ml of water, milk, juice, juice with vitamin D bound to whey protein isolate as well as 500 ml of water without vitamin D (placebo) were presented to the study.

Blood samples were collected at 0h, 2h, 4h, 6h, 8h, 10h, 12h, and 24h on each study day.

“One aspect that surprised me was the fact that the results seen in the water and milk groups were equal. This was quite unexpected given the fact that milk contains fatter than water,” stated Dr Espersen.

The study revealed that whey protein isolate in apple juice did not enhance the maximum concentration of D3.

It is compared to juice without WPI. However, compared to juice, D3 concentrations were significantly higher in response to the intake of milk and water. No difference was observed between milk and water. Therefore, the conclusion from this study is that vitamin D fortification works better in water or milk than in juice. -ANI



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A masterpiece with premium design and durable battery life

MUSCAT: Huawei recently launched its latest smartwatch, the Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro. Being a pioneer when it comes to innovation and top notch technology, Huawei continues to bring jaw-breaking designs coupled with the latest tech innovations to its popular Huawei Watch GT Series – the smartwatch can best be described as an elegant, everlasting masterpiece with a premium design. It boasts the signature Huawei moon phase collection, in addition to up to 14 days long battery life, wireless fast charging, professional health management, new workout modes and numerous convenient life features. The best bit probably is that the Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro is compatible with Huawei devices in addition to other devices running on Android and iOS.

The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro comes in two variants – Titanium Edition and Ceramic Edition and it is available in Oman at 149.9 OMR on Huawei's official website and select retailers.

The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro premium design is inspired by nature, highlighting natural beauty with integrated pioneering technologies. Its high-end design is complemented by a moon phase collection – a feature that is normally associated with classic luxurious watches. The moon phase complication adds to the premium look and feel of the Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro, but it also brings users unique watch faces from which they can observe the different phases of the moon as it changes. The watch face can display daily sunrise and sunset times, while also supporting moon phase notifications, and displaying tide changes in real-time.

High-Definition colour display
In terms of aesthetics, Huawei's latest smartwatch is on another level on its own. The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro Titanium Edition is equipped with a 1.43-inch AMOLED High-Definition colour display. The smartwatch comes with a new look and feel with an integrated minimalist design giving it an art piece texture and appearance. The smartwatch comes with



a titanium metal case, sapphire glass lens and ceramic back case – all these remarkable top quality material ensure the bestows the smartwatch with a unique elegance and comfort when worn.

The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro Ceramic Edition – Huawei's first Ceramic watch comes with a 1.32-inch AMOLED HD colour display. It incorporates the classic design elements of Eastern and Western aesthetics with perfect balance, interpreting the aesthetics that combine technology and elegance. The ceramic made watch is soft and elegant featuring a new and exclusively designed flower dial with dynamic effects; the five different dial effects show various shapes of flower as time goes. The

dynamic flower dial that changes with time embodies design ingenuity with artistry. The vivid blossoming of flowers not only symbolises the passage of time in a fascinating way but also adds a fun twist in its presentation.

Important feature
An important feature to lookout for in smartwatches is battery life, this is actually quite integral especially with all the health managing and fitness tracking happening in the background. The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro Titanium Edition comes with a 14-day battery life and 7-day battery life in intense usage scenarios while the Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro Ceramic Edition comes with 7 days battery life in typical scenarios and 4 days battery life in heavy usage scenarios. The smartwatch supports the fast and convenient wireless fast charging. It only takes 10 minutes to charge for a full-day use (in typical scenarios).

In terms of health, Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro series supports Electrocardiogram (ECG) data collection, which can accurately

provide single-lead ECG measurements, real-time analysis, sinus rhythm and atrial fibrillation detection, and premature atrial and ventricular beat reminders for users and supports arterial stiffness detection, allowing users to actively prevent the risk of vascular diseases. It also offers all-round health management in heart rate monitoring, blood oxygen, sleep, respiratory health, and pressure, which helps keep tracking the changes in your body. With the Huawei Health App on the phone, you can synchronise real-time exercise and health monitoring data to pay close attention to the health of you and your family.

Huawei TruSeen™ 5.0+ does not only further improve the accuracy of heart rate monitoring, but also improves the accuracy of SpO2 monitoring: It increases the data processing capacity by four times, reducing the signal loss rate, and improves the accuracy of heart rate monitoring. Especially in workout scenarios, the accuracy of dynamic heart rate monitoring is greatly improved. At the same time, the out-

put rate and speed of SpO2 monitoring have also been improved.

If you are pursuing a healthier lifestyle and you are eager to explore your own healthy living rules in a fast-paced working environment, then the Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro is for you.

The Huawei Watch GT 3 Pro comes loaded with upgraded workout monitoring features, providing over 100 workout modes, aside from the new free-diving mode, it also includes other professional workout modes like golf driving range mode, running, walking, mountain climbing, hiking, cross-country running, cycling, open water swimming, triathlon, skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, free training, elliptical machine and rowing machine.

This smartwatch is equipped with a professional Free Diving Mode: The watch achieves the EN 13319 standard, a groundbreaking diving-level waterproof performance, which can support free dive at up to 30 metres deep, accompanying its users to explore underwater wonders.



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Jam Orange Rondella	450 GM
Nescafe Instant Coffee Matinal	200 GM
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Biryani Rice	5 KG
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Cooking Oil	1.8 LTR
Masoor Dal	1 KG
Happy Nick Cornflakes	1 KG
Tiffany Biscuits Digestive	450 GM 2 Packets
Jam Orange Rondella	450 GM
Tea Loose	250 GM
Table Salt Iodized	1 KG
Dish Washing Liquid	1 Litre

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TWO-YEAR-OLD UGANDAN CHILD

Aster MIMS Calicut writes new history with bone marrow transplant

MUSCAT: For the first time in the history of North Kerala, a two-year-old Ugandan child was rescued by performing a bone marrow transplant at Aster Mims Calicut.

Rose Wataka, Mother of two-year-old Philip, who was suffering from sickle cell anaemia, came to Kozhikode Aster Mims for treatment. Before arriving in Kozhikode, they had researched in detail in different parts of the world about getting the best treatment. Dr. Kesavan, leading Paediatric Hemato Oncologist in Kerala led the treatment.

The search for a suitable bone

marrow began after it was decided that a bone marrow transplant was the only cure for Philip, who was suffering from excruciating pain, recurrent infections, frequent hospitalisations and blood transfusions.

Fortunately, Philip's older brother, Thomas, was a fully matched donor for Philip. Bone marrow transplant is a very complex treatment method, Treatment is carried out in the bone marrow transplant unit at Aster MIMS Calicut.

Brother Thomas' hematopoietic stem cells were infused in Philip's

body after he was given chemotherapy. Philip was discharged from the transplant unit after recovery of his counts.

"He is currently 2 months post stem cell transplant. Philip is completely relieved from the sickle pain crisis and also to the need of hospitalisations. Philip can now lead a normal life like any other child," Dr. Keshavan said.

"It is a matter of pride that people from all over the world come to Kozhikode in search of more complex cases like bone marrow transplants."

"In addition to those in the Gulf

countries, patients from foreign countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Uganda have started choosing Kozhikode and Aster Mims as their first consideration. We are proud of this," said Farhan Yasin, Regional Director, Aster Group Kerala & Oman.

Farhan Yasin (Regional Director, Aster Oman & Kerala); Dr. KV Gangadharan (Head, Department of Oncology); Dr. E K Suresh Kumar (Head Department of Paediatrics) Dr. Keshavan (Consultant Pediatric Hematologist); Sudeep (Consultant Hematologist) also attended the press conference.



HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



OQ showcases its prowess in HSE

MUSCAT: OQ recently participated in the 8th edition of the Global Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Conference & Exhibition 2022, that took place at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre from 16th to 19th May. Held under the auspices of His Excellency Eng. Saeed Bin Hamoud Al-Mawali, Minister of transport, Communications and IT, the four-day event continued its tradition of creating a sustainable platform for the industry to discuss and debate on various challenges faced by the industry while exploring new landscapes within energy transition. The Conference opened under the theme of HSE Excellence – Leadership, Sustainability and Technology as the core components.

Showcasing its HSE prowess over the years, OQ featured persons from management as keynote speakers on the topics of Health and Wellbeing, diversification in Upstream operations along with carbon footprint reduction, GHG estimation and climate change impact. Officials also participated in panel discussions, while showcasing HSE achievements at the OQ booth.

His Excellency Eng. Saeed Bin Hamoud Al-Mawali, was briefed about the efforts exerted by OQ Group in the fields of Health, Safety and Environment as well

as current practices in sustainable growth across OQ locations and operations. H.E. was informed about the procedures and requirements adopted by the Group regarding health, safety and the environment and the extent to which they are maintained by OQ in all its operations and facilities in accordance with local and international policies and frameworks. He was also introduced to the achievements made by the group in maintaining said standards.

Leading an HSE culture change, OQ has created a long-term strategy for a foundational change in every process. The very foundation on which energy is imagined is challenged for the better through development of green energy such as renewables, biofuels, CCUS, amongst others. Under the Leadership pillar, OQ has transformed work culture by promoting the Safety Leadership Program (Downstream) that empowers individuals to stop work when and if required. Another critical initiative is the Leadership Accountability programme that covers various segments such as the OPAL Road Safety Forum, Camp Standards Program, Fitness to Work amongst others while also adapting industry best practices for a safer working environment.

The Telluride with its advanced technology and features helps you stay in control wherever your desires take you



MUSCAT: The popular and stylish Kia Telluride SUV is powerful, capable, spacious and comfortable. It is an ideal choice for families looking to make the most of fun time together. Built rugged to go beyond on every journey the full-size Kia Telluride SUV is a perfect companion to navigate your way across terrains. The Telluride with its advanced technology and features helps you stay in control wherever your desires take you.

The Telluride is equipped with a 3.8L GDI engine that produces 291 hp and 36.2 kg.m. torque. Complementing this powerful SUV is the 8-speed automatic transmission. The powerful Kia Telluride SUV loads up your desires to go places with all that you have planned and packed for. Equipped with thrilling performance capability and space enough to comfortably carry your loved ones and your adventure equipment along, the Telluride is engineered to offer exceptional experiences.

The Telluride's stylish exterior highlights its every arrival, encouraging more than just second stares. Contributing to this are the Bi-Function Projection Headlamps, LED Daytime Running Lights, 20"

Alloy Wheels, LED Rear Combination Lamps and more. Arming you with the advantage of having great start to your days is the Remote Engine Start. During the summers when the heat could be discomfoting, the Remote window control feature, can be a much needed advantage. Faster cooling, happier journeys.

The interior of the Telluride has a very spacious cabin that has enough room to welcome occupants right up to the third row along with their well-packed belongings. That is a definite luxury. Passengers can revel in the comfort of being surrounded with well-thought appointments that include USB charging port in every row, Leather Seats, Ventilated Front Seats, Power Driver Seat, Power Passenger Seat, Walk-in Button, Rear Side Manual Curtain, Smart Tailgate, Roof Mounted Rear AC Control, Diffusing Roof AC Vents, Dual Independent Full Auto A/C, Audio Remote Control, Sunroof, 10.25-inch colour LCD

with Smart Navigation, Rear Seat Driver Talk Mode, Rear Seat Quiet Mode and much more.

The Telluride is made to go the distance and backing you on your ambitions is the Safety suite that includes Side and Curtain Airbags, Brake Assist System, Electric Parking Brake with Auto Hold, Front and Rear Parking Assist System, Self Levelling Rear Suspension, Head-up Display, Smart Cruise Control, Blind Spot Collision Avoidance Assist, Around View Monitor, Lane Following Assist, and much more.

Kia (www.kia.com) is a global mobility brand with a vision to create sustainable mobility solutions for consumers, communities, and societies around the world. Founded in 1944, Kia has been providing mobility solutions for more than 75 years.

With 52,000 employees worldwide, a presence in more than 190 markets, and manufacturing facilities in six countries, the company today sells around three million

vehicles a year. Kia is spearheading the popularization of electrified and battery electric vehicles and developing a growing range of mobility services, encouraging millions of people around the world to explore the best ways of getting around. The company's brand slogan – 'Movement that inspires' – reflects Kia's commitment to inspire consumers through its products and services.

Reliable International Automotive (RIA), the distributor for Kia in Oman provides a rewarding ownership experience for customers. Excellent product attributes and unmatched facilities easily ensure their absolute satisfaction, every mile of the way. No wonder then that Reliable International Automotive has been ranked amongst the top Kia distributors worldwide and has been honoured with prestigious accolades including the 'Good Partnership award', 'Family Like Care' Service award', and 'Kia 'Distributor of Distinction' award'.

A SPECIAL 2-YEAR EDITION

Qatar Airways Group releases 2021 Sustainability Report



MUSCAT: Qatar Airways Group on Monday published its Sustainability Report for FY2019-21, a special 2-year edition themed "Response, Relief, Recovery, Resilience". Acknowledging the unprecedented circumstances the global aviation community faced in 2020, the approach of this two-year report differs from previous years, due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on its business as usual operation.

The latest report details how the airline group was able to quickly respond to the needs of its customers, and its relief efforts in providing repatriation to people stranded and transport of essential medical and other supplies, as well as the airline's strategy to recover and

build resilience to ensure long-term business sustainability.

Qatar Airways was adept in aligning short-term emergency responses with investments into long-term economic, social and environmental objectives to ensure the safety, security and well-being of its passengers and employees. It maintained its mission of 'Connecting People and Moving Cargo' safely and hygienically, becoming an airline customers can trust and rely on.

Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive, His Excellency Akbar Al Baker, said: "The COVID-19 pandemic challenged the industry, businesses large and small, local and national governments, families, and individuals in ways few

of us could have imagined. While it impacted every aspect of our business in 2020 and 2021, we worked to address the pandemic while continuing to drive industry's agenda toward net-zero. Our industry recognises that there is more work to be done. We will continue to share our progress and be responsible for ensuring a safe and sustainable industry for future generations."

Sustainable recovery

During the peak of the pandemic, Qatar Airways remained steadfast in its ambition to demonstrate leadership in environmental sustainability, and continued to work on cementing the path towards a sustainable recovery and contrib-

uting to the conservation of global biodiversity with its zero-tolerance policy towards illegal trafficking of wildlife and its products. Together with oneworld member airlines, Qatar Airways committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050, becoming the first global airline alliance to unite behind a common target to achieve carbon neutrality. It also partnered with IATA to launch its voluntary carbon offset programme for passengers, which has now extended to include its cargo and corporate clients, while continuing to improve our environmental performance and securing the accreditation to the highest level in the IATA Environmental Assessment Programme (IEnvA).



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Bank Muscat showcases latest digital solutions at COMEX 2022

Through its strong presence at the three-day exhibition, Bank Muscat is showcasing some of its cutting-edge, customer-centric services and features

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate is participating in the COMEX 2022 Expo, being held from 23rd to 25th May 2022 at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre – OCEC.

COMEX is the largest Technology, Communications, Innovation and Digital Transformation show in the Sultanate of Oman and offers exhibitors and visitors a comprehensive and highly specialised platform for industry leading discussions, knowledge-sharing and B2B meetings and the bank's participation and support are in line with its role in strengthening national development and digitalisation of the economy as part of the ambitious Oman Vision 2040.

The opening ceremony was held under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Khamis Bin Saif Al Jabri, Chairman, Implementation Support and Follow – up Unit and was attended by dignitaries and business leaders from the Sultanate and the region. COMEX is celebrating its 31st anniversary this year and will feature an Exhibition,



an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Conference, Workshops, Seminars, Certified Training Programmes, Gaming, Business to Business Meetings and Attractions.

Through its strong presence at the 3-day long exhibition, Bank Muscat is showcasing some of its cutting-edge, customer-centric services and features. Bank customers will be able to apply (through self-service) and receive replacement / new debit cards on the spot by using the all new Multifunction Kiosk.

The bank is also highlighting its recently-launched SmartPay Payment Gateway platform that accepts local/international debit/credit cards making the transaction experience much more efficient for the bank's merchant partners and their customers. The bank also takes the opportunity to demonstrate its secure QR code e-payments solution, which is very helpful for small and micro businesses in meeting the latest regu-

lations on providing e-payment options to their customers. Members from the bank's Saeed team were also available at the bank's stall to help existing clients applying for loans /credit cards and non-customers to apply for a new account from the site.

Oman Vision 2040

Speaking on the occasion, Abdullah Hamood Al Jufaili, Assistant General Manager, Digital Banking, Bank Muscat, said: "In close alignment to the goals of the landmark Oman Vision 2040, Bank Muscat is delighted to extend strong support to COMEX, which is the premier technology, innovation and digital transformation show in Oman. Oman's technology and communications capabilities are being developed at an amazing pace, and this is fueling the digital transformation of our nation. As the leading financial services provider in Oman, we are committed to offering the latest financial

services and solutions in line with global financial trends. The consistent rise in active customers on our e-channels is a reflection of the popularity of both Mobile and Internet Banking as well as other digital banking channels."

The bank's continuously upgraded Internet and mobile banking services offer customers a fast, comfortable and secure banking experience. Today, over 1.3 million retail banking customers are using various features like real-time bill payments for utilities in Oman, fund transfers within the bank and in Oman, fund transfers across the world via the SWIFT network; speed transfers to a number of countries including Bangladesh, India, the Philippines, Pakistan and Sri Lanka; Zakat calculator and charity payments. Bill payment facility is available for a variety of utility services such as electricity, water, telecom, mobile top ups, instant credit card bill payments, school payments etc.

Internet banking and the mBanking app also allow customers to disable or enable their debit card for international usage adding an extra layer of security for the benefit of customers. Bank Muscat also has contactless "Just Tap" payment options for shopping and payments through its various debit, credit and prepaid cards as well as contactless wearables.

The bank has been witnessing a remarkable rise in e-channels usage over the past two years. Today, customers are able to transact quickly, securely and 24/7 via mobile banking, Internet banking, contact centre and the bank's large network of over 800 ATMs/CDMs and other devices across the country. The Contact Centre can be reached at 24795555, and it is also possible to communicate with the bank through its various social media sites. Please go to <https://www.bankmuscat.com/en/bankingchannels/Pages/default.aspx> for more details.

Bank Muscat's Corporate Banking is committed to supporting corporates and government entities to make a mark in digitalisation to create a successful business environment. The Bank provides a complete range of technology driven digital offerings which cater to government entities, corporates and SMEs. The Bank's processes and technology are designed to drive prospective corporate transaction requirements and ensure future readiness of the corporates to adapt and become an agile, resilient and digitally mature organisation.

As part of the Bank's aspirations to embed digital efficiency in corporates and institution's business and digitising the entire customer journey, the Bank is offering cutting edge digital solutions with Corporate Online Banking, Business to Business (B2B) connectivity, Remote Cheque Collection, consolidated dashboard of bank accounts across all banks, Direct debit solution, Virtual accounts, Sweep solutions and Trade finance service. Bank Muscat's 'Integrated Transaction Banking Platform', offers payment, collection and receivables, liquidity management and trade solutions in a single platform. The platform unifies the digital experience for the corporates and institutions and ensures ease of business operations, brings insights, and provides complete control on visibility & management of funds for effective working capital management.

Bank Muscat's many achievements have been well recognised with the bank winning several awards in the past including being recognized by Forbes Middle East as one of the "Top 100 Companies in the Middle East" and as one of the "Top 50 banks in the Region". The bank also won the Best Consumer Digital Bank (Oman) and Best Corporate / Institutional Digital Bank (Oman) from Global Finance in 2021.

FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

BankDhofar showcases cutting-edge banking solutions at COMEX 2022

MUSCAT: BankDhofar takes part in the 31st edition of the largest Technology, Communications, Innovation and Digital Transformation show in the Sultanate, COMEX 2022. The exhibition is being held from 23 May to 25 May, 2022.

BankDhofar's participation comes in line with its ongoing commitment to design state-of-the-art products, services, and financial solutions that adopt the latest technology, to ensure providing a convenient banking experience to its customers.

COMEX 2022, which is held at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre (OCEC), brings together leading technology companies that display their digital solution. Visitors of BankDhofar's booth, at the Fintech corner, will get the chance to see and experience the innovative digital banking solutions designed by the Bank for the customers. The visitors will also get the chance to win valuable prizes presented by the Bank during the exhibition period.

BankDhofar puts technology and innovation at the core of its strategy to improve the experience of its customers. The Bank is constantly keeping pace with



the technological developments while designing new products and services to ensure convenient banking experience for customers. Customers may conduct their transactions at ease and around the clock through the highly-secured and user-friendly digital banking channels. BankDhofar's, award-winning, Mobile Banking App offers a wide range of exclusive services. The services include; instant transfer to any bank in the Sultanate, cardless cash, mobile top-up for all telecom providers in the Sultanate, increasing daily withdrawal limit to OMR 5,000, among other services. Through Internet Banking, BankDhofar provides several features for retail and corporate customers. Additionally, BankD-

hofar customers may access the financial services through a wide network of ATMs and CDMs around the Sultanate. The Bank launched Cardless ATM Banking Services using mobile. The first of its kind service in the world enables customers to conduct ATM transactions easily only by using their mobile numbers.

Along with the services provided over BankDhofar's digital channels, BankDhofar customers may conduct their payment transactions conveniently through BankDhofar cards with the "Tap & Go" feature. This feature allows customers to pay on the go for shopping, traveling, or for any payments. The cards are highly secured and come with an RFID protection card and cover.

INCLUDES CLOUD SERVICES

ODP and Vodafone sign major strategic partnership agreement

MUSCAT: Oman Data Park (ODP), the Sultanate's first managed cyber security and cloud services provider, and the Omani Future Telecommunication Company - Vodafone - signed a strategic partnership agreement under which ODP will provide Cloud Services, Colocation Services, Managed Security Services and Managed Infrastructure services to Vodafone in the Sultanate.

The signed agreement reflects the future vision of the two parties on the importance of enabling technology to serve national economy in line with Oman vision 2040, which stresses on the need to provide technical solutions that contribute to localise the technology in the Sultanate, keep pace with the requirements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and to create wider horizons for utilising the modern technologies in various fields of business.

The linking of the agreement also reflects the confidence of international companies such as Vodafone in the local companies and their capabilities to provide technical solutions that help to save time, reduce operational costs and speeding up the work process.

In a press statement on this occasion, Engineer Maqbool Al Wahaibi, CEO of Oman Data Park Company said: "As a pioneering Omani company in all its fields of



work, our involving into a strategic partnership with Vodafone as a global company in the telecommunications fields is considered as an affirmation of the capability of Oman Data Park in providing colocation and cloud services locally to various companies, including advanced telecommunications companies".

He added : We are proud that , the services offered by ODP through its own locally hosted Tier 3 certified datacenters in Rusayl, Duqm and Wattayah, and the cyber security services through its Cyber security Park Center, will contribute to provide High-quality services for Vodafone to meet its needs in this regard."

For his part, Sayyid Fahad bin

Abdulaziz Al Busaidi, Chief Support Services Officer at Vodafone stated : "We are delighted by this strategic partnership , which will pave the way for Vodafone and ODP to work together towards strengthening this partnership to broad horizons to contribute and to enhance the in country value he added , while we stressed our full commitment to work with our partners in utilizing all the supportive capabilities in creating a digital society that is capable to meet the requirements of the next stage, in particular with Oman Data Park, which enjoys advanced services in the field of Cloud Services, Colocation Services, Managed Security Services and Managed Infrastructure services"



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