



HM SENDS CONGRATULATIONS
MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on his country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere congratulations and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Rajapaksa and the people of Sri Lanka further progress and prosperity. **-OMA**



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DME

Oman's crude oil price crosses \$57



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman crude oil price has touched a new high of \$57.72 a barrel following an increase of 83 cents on Wednesday, compared to the first week of February 2020 when the price was hovering around \$57 a barrel.

The average price of Oman oil (February Delivery 2021) has stabilised at \$50, thus \$6.17 per barrel higher than January 2021, according to the data from Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME).

Oil price has continued to rally throughout the year so far and will help to cushion up the revenues of the government.

Analysts are expecting crude oil prices to rise in the coming months and will remain above the \$50 level. They say that with a new government in the US, and with concerns of the new strain of virus gradually declining oil prices will continue to climb up. The price of oil is set to increase further, as more and more public services that require oil consumption continue to rise after being temporarily suspended during the pandemic.

The pricing system for Oman crude on the DME is used by five national oil-producing entities in the region: Oman, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the Emirate of Dubai. The price of oil is set to increase further, as more and more public services that require oil consumption are brought back, having been temporarily suspended during the pandemic.



EXPAT RECRUITMENT FEES HIKE WON'T HURT ECONOMY



The fees for hiring an expat in Oman is lower compared to neighbouring countries

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Increasing expat recruitment fees in Oman will not negatively affect the local economy and the amount of foreign investment coming into the country, the Undersecretary for Labour at the Ministry of Labour, Nasr Al Hosani, has said.

Al Hosani said that despite the increase in costs to companies, the fee to hire an expatriate worker in Oman is still lower, compared to its neighbouring



NASR AL HOSANI

countries. "The decision was taken over the past few months after taking into account the minimum wages and the departure of expatriate workers," he said.

"After we came to these decisions, we moved onto those concerning the changing of job titles. Only then did we announce our decision over increasing the



If firms feel their costs will rise because they hire expatriate workers, we invite them to hire Omanis instead

fees to obtain permits for expatriates in supervisory, senior, and technical roles.

"We made this decision because we believe there are Omanis who are capable of carrying out these works," added the undersecretary.

"We are now talking about a free market for employment, and have given the private sector

freedom to announce job openings and choose applicants based on the salaries they are able to pay them."

While speaking to Shabiba FM, he said, "We tell the private sector and other employers hiring workers registered in the national manpower registry that employing an experienced and qualified Omani workers on these posts will turn out to be less expensive compared to expatriate workers."

The undersecretary added that the decisions taken by the government to prioritise employment for its own citizens were in keeping with the practices followed by other countries to employ their own nationals first.

"If companies feel their operational costs are going to increase because they hire expatriate workers, we invite them to hire Omanis instead," he added.

"There is no problem in hiring an Omani. If they feel the existing jobseekers are unqualified, they can hire Omanis from any other organisation." **>A5**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN Oman, Sri Lanka to mark 40 years of ties

1 Oman and Sri Lanka will mark 40 years of diplomatic ties through a number of events which will be held during this year. **>A2**

WORLD



Police file charges against Suu Kyi

2 Myanmar's police filed charges against ousted and detained leader Aung San Suu Kyi on Wednesday for breaches of the country's import and export law. **>A6**

MARKET CMA to launch new disclosure portal

3 The Capital Market Authority (CMA) is preparing to launch XBRL disclosure portal by organising introductory workshops for the regulated entities. **>B1**

IMMUNISATION DRIVE

People over 65 years of age to be vaccinated from Sunday

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health will, on Sunday, launch a campaign targeting a new segment of society as part of its COVID-19 national immunisation drive using Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine.

The campaign will target people aged 65+ in all governorates of the Sultanate, irrespective of whether they are 'healthy' or not. The vaccine will be given at designated immunisation centres. The two-dose vaccine will be given in intervals of four weeks.

Last Saturday, the Sultanate received a total of 100,000 doses of Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine from

India where the medicine was produced at Serum Institute. Oman's Minister of Health has thanked the government of India for delivering 100,000 vaccines at no charge, to help with the country's coronavirus vaccination drive.

The AstraZeneca vaccines have undergone clinical trials to ensure they were safe to use on humans. The vaccines were handed over to Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Saidi by Munu Mahawar, the ambassador of India to Oman.

Thanking the Indian government on behalf of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the Omani government and people, "Al Saidi welcomed the government of

India's gesture to gift 100,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and commended the cooperation between the two countries," said a statement from the Ministry of Health.

He praised India's leading role in the global fight against COVID-19, and the support that India has extended to its friends, praising the efforts of the government in making vaccines available for people around the world.

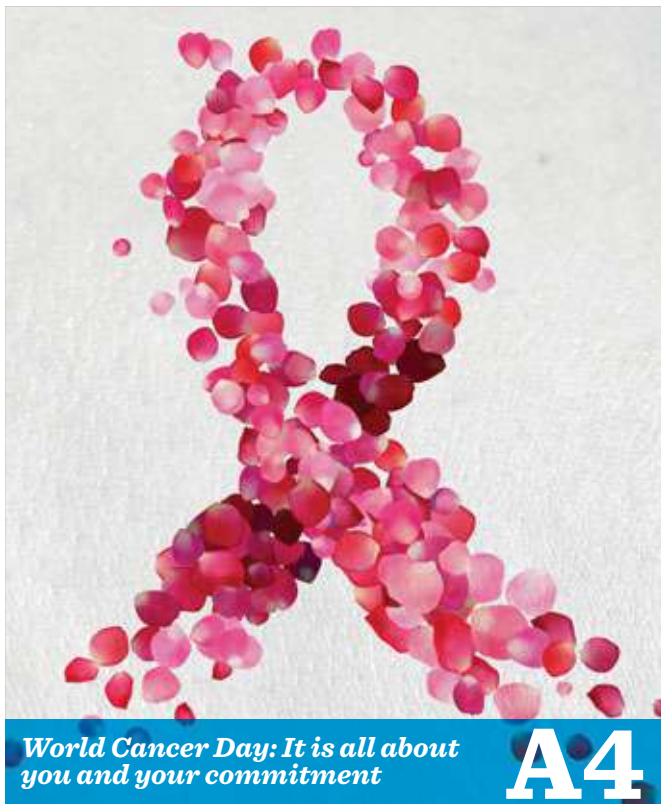
"It is important to have an interval of at least four weeks between the first and second dose when taking the AstraZeneca vaccine," the statement said.

The Indian envoy said, "This is a gift from the Government of

India - this is a gesture of goodwill from India, keeping in mind the special relationship we have with Oman. This is entirely a contribution to Oman's vaccine programme for the country's government and Ministry of Health to use," he added.

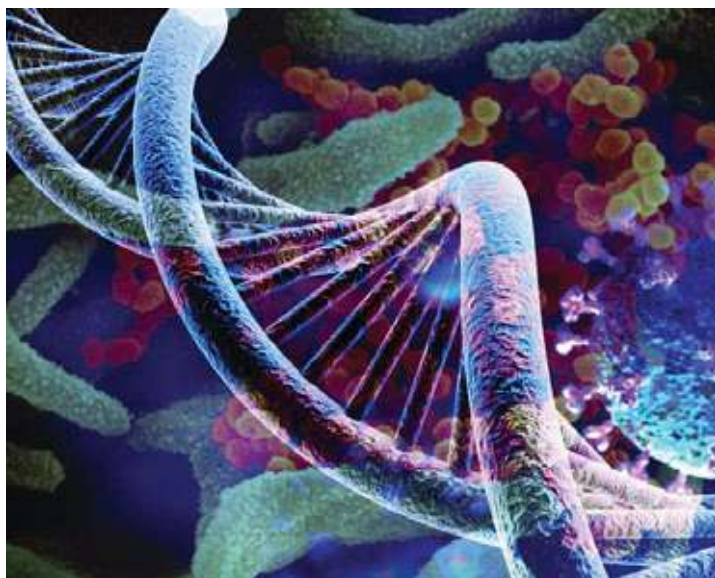
"India has always shouldered global responsibility at times of crisis and is a dependable and reliable friend of Oman."

Meanwhile people who already received the first dose of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine will not be given the current vaccine. The Ministry of Health will announce the date of application for the second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech later.



COVID-19

Nizwa University researchers detect rare strain of coronavirus



Times News Service

MUSCAT: A rare strain of COVID-19 has been detected in Oman, thanks to efforts taken to map the genetic sequences of variants in the country.

The project, which was jointly undertaken by the University of Nizwa and the Ministry of Health, looked at 94 samples of the virus taken from patients in the country. Its results have now been published in the *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*.

P323L is the most common mutation of the virus, found in 94.7 per cent of samples studied, followed by the D614G spike protein mutation, present in 92.6 per cent. A unique mutation, I280V,

was first reported in Oman and was associated with a rare lineage, B.1.113, found in only 10.6 per cent of samples.

"The study revealed a good connection between genetic and epidemiological data in the country," said Dr Ahmed Sulaiman Al Harrasi, the founder of the Natural and Medical Sciences Research Centre, which conducted this study on behalf of the University of Nizwa. "Oman's robust surveillance system has been very efficient in guiding outbreak investigation processes in the country"

Role of epidemiology

"The study illustrates the future importance of molecular epidemiology in leading the national re-

sponse to outbreaks and pandemics," he added. "We are currently continuing our collaboration with the Ministry of Health by sequencing the coronavirus from infected healthcare workers, as well as patients who've been infected more than once."

Headed by Al Harrasi, the research team from the University of Nizwa included Dr Abdulataif Khan, Dr Sajad Asef, Dr Majed Al Salmani, and Ahmed Al Rawahi. Costs to cover expenses related to the project were received through a grant from the University of Nizwa.

The Ministry of Health, which conducted the study through its Central Public Health Laboratories, and the Epidemiological Surveillance Department of the

Directorate General of Diseases and Control, was represented by Dr Saif Salim Al Abri, Dr Samira Hamad Al Mahrooqi, Dr Amina Khalfan Al Jardani, Dr Samiha Rashid Al Kharousi, Dr Hanan Salim Al Khiri, and Dr Adil Saeed Al Wahaibi.

Potential

"The number of full-genome sequences of coronavirus samples that have been successfully deposited by the Sultanate in the global database (GISAID) has reached 203," said the ministry in a statement. "This reflects the potential of qualified Omanis in the capacity, as well as the availability of the most advanced techniques in gene sequencing in the country." **>A3**

PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....12.26pm
Asr.....3:37pm
Maghrib.....6:00pm
Isha.....7:13pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....5.29am

Oman, Sri Lanka to mark 40 years of their diplomatic ties this month

A MOU is to be signed between the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka, and the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to boost trade



TOURISM HOTSPOTS: Top tourist destinations in Sri Lanka are like Yala National Park, Kandy's Temple of the Tooth, the ancient rock fortress of Sigiriya, and whale-watching spots at Mirissa.



versification drives, for the mutual benefit of the two people."

"I wish to place on record my sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik for granting amnesty to the Sri Lankan nationals who overstayed in Oman, allowing to return back to their homeland with the exemption of fines or penalties," said Ajwad.

Although the embassy normally does conduct large-scale independence day celebrations every year, including a cultural performance by students from Sri Lankan School Muscat, as well as many members of the country's community in Oman, this year's proceedings will only include a handful of people, including business heads of Sri Lankan companies, and a few representatives of the expat community, owing to ongoing coronavirus restrictions.

"While I extend my sincere appreciation to the government of Oman for taking care of the health and welfare of the Sri Lankan community in the Sultanate during the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, I am also grateful, in particular, to the enormous support extended by the Foreign Ministry towards the Embassy of Sri Lanka in Muscat," he said.

"On this auspicious occasion, I wish to thank all the members of the Sri Lankan community in for their support to the embassy as well as for their outstanding sense of social responsibility and solidarity shown to the host country during the challenging times of the COVID-19 outbreak," Ajwad said.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman and Sri Lanka will mark 40 years of diplomatic ties through a number of events which will be held during this year, depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking on the eve of his country's 73rd Independence day, which falls on 4 February, 2021, Ameer Ajwad, the ambassador of Sri Lanka to Oman, added the celebrations to mark this occasion would be low-key, on account of the current circumstances.

"The 73rd anniversary is a sig-

nificant occasion in our bilateral relations with the Sultanate of Oman, as it coincides with the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Sri Lanka and the Sultanate of Oman which falls on 17th of February 2021," he said.

"We are planning to organise a series of events to celebrate this historic occasion throughout the year," he added.

"I firmly believe that this remarkable year will serve as a catalyst to further elevate bilateral relations between Sri Lanka and the Sultanate of Oman to new heights in the years ahead."

Among the plans Sri Lanka

has with Oman is the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sri Lanka, and the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, to boost trade.

Small business owners from Sri Lanka are also expected to create partnerships with their Omani counterparts, while plans are also being discussed to bring sports teams from the island country for a series of exhibition games and goodwill tournaments later in the year, the pandemic permitting.

During the pandemic, Sri Lanka has also sent a number of essential food supplies, such as poultry,



Ameer Ajwad, the ambassador of Sri Lanka to Oman.

fruits and vegetables to Oman, to help people meet their daily needs.

"Because of the lockdowns to stop the spread of COVID, we decided to help people in the country by sending to supermarkets items they use most often," said the ambassador. "This is another aspect of the cooperation between our countries."

"There is huge potential in the areas of economic cooperation, educational and technological cooperation as well as maritime cooperation," he went on to add. "We focus on these areas. I believe these offer enormous opportunities for partnership and collaboration, particularly in terms of di-

SAFETY STANDARDS

ASYAD signs Neptune Declaration for the wellbeing of seafarers

MUSCAT: ASYAD Group signed the Neptune Declaration to prevent exposing seafarers to extended periods at sea.

The latest commitment comes in keeping with ASYAD's continuous efforts to ensure the highest health and safety standards and practices for its staff and in response to international calls for crew change to minimise the impact of COVID-19 on maritime trade and logistics.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the shipping arm of ASYAD has set out to implement consistent crew change protocols on all its vessels in the USA, Singapore, Brazil, India, Sri Lanka and Japan to help seafarers enjoy a healthier social life and manage the stress of their time at sea.

The Neptune Declaration, signed by more than 300 global players and businesses operating in the maritime sector, urges the implementation of four main actions to facilitate crew change and safeguard the global supply chain.

These actions include recognising seafarers as key workers, providing them priority access to COVID-19 vaccine and ensuring air connectivity between key maritime hubs for seafarers.

Dr. Ibrahim Al-Nadhairi, CEO Maritime- ASYAD, commented that joining this Declaration rings true to ASYAD's HSSE culture and pledge to provide a safe workplace



SAFETY FIRST: Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the shipping arm of ASYAD has set out to implement crew change protocols on all its vessels. - ONA

for all its employees. It also marks a milestone towards reinforcing ASYAD's position as a leading global logistics group committed to supporting and caring for seafarers spending extended periods at sea that may impact their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Al Nadhairi added that ASYAD has taken concrete measures to improve the level of care extended to its seamen, whether by providing personal protection equipment, scaling up regular on-board healthcare campaigns and supporting seafarer families, if need be.

"ASYAD strongly believes that

the human capital is the invaluable essence of the Group and the driving force behind our progress," said Khalil Al-Balushi, Marine Director.

He added that the Neptune Declaration, to which ASYAD is now an active member, formalizes a global initiative to improve the wellbeing and welfare of seafarers as the lifeblood of the global supply chain.

Today, ASYAD Group has grown into an established player in the global maritime market, owning and operating around 60 carriers and vessels. - ONA



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Unified GCC travel mechanism discussed

Distribution of COVID-19 vaccines was among the other issues discussed at the 14th virtual meeting of GCC Undersecretaries of Health Ministries

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Senior health officials of the Gulf Cooperation Council discussed possible responses to the latest situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The GCC Undersecretaries of Health Ministries recently held their 14th virtual meeting to discuss the latest developments related to COVID-19. The discussed items include distribution of COVID-19 vaccines and unified travel procedures among GCC countries.

The Ministry of Health (MoH), in a statement said, "Dr. Amal Al Maani, MoH's Acting Director General of Diseases Control & Surveillance and Director of Infec-

tion Prevention & Control chaired the meeting on behalf of Dr. Mohammed bin Saif Al-Hosni, MOH's Undersecretary for Health Affairs, with the attendance of a number of MOH's senior officials."

"The meeting addressed the latest updates of the mutant coronavirus in the GCC countries and actions taken regarding supplying and administering COVID-19 vaccines to the target groups in the GCC countries as well the coverage rate for each country."

"It further reviewed challenges that face most GCC countries

among which is the provision of the adequate doses of the vaccine to realise the specified coverage rate in each country while the manufactured companies failed to deliver the vaccine as scheduled."

"Proposals on developing a mechanism for unified travel procedures among GCC countries were addressed. In addition, the meeting identified unified immunisation standards and reviewed entry procedures at border-crossing points. It also touched upon mechanisms taken and procedures implemented by the GCC countries regarding quarantine and PCR test."

MoH pointed out that, "The meeting reviewed the number of cases infected by the new strain of the virus and the preventive measures that have been taken by each GCC country. Their Excellencies, the GCC Health Undersecretaries commended the significant efforts of health workers as well their tangible contribution in mitigating the spread of the virus."

"The Undersecretaries urge all GCC citizens and residents to adhere fully to the preventive measures such as wearing masks, avoiding gatherings, maintaining physical distance and hand hygiene. They further stressed the importance of taking the information from reliable sources and not to pay attention to rumours and unofficial social media platforms," the MoH added

VIRUS GENE MAPPING

FROM A1 Epidemiological features used to select samples

"Samples were selected based on epidemiological characteristics that represent various cluster types, geographical location, and nationality," said the report.

"The epidemiological investigation was conducted by public health teams throughout the country, who fed data into a national electronic database."

"All confirmed cases underwent epidemiological investigations and included the information of each patient's demography (age, gender, residency, and nationality), and epidemiology (source of infection if known, date of onset, whether a primary or secondary case, and designation of infection (cluster or sporadic)," it added.

The study selected patients based on a number of considerations, including age group, nationalities, severity of illness, infection date, places of travel and residence, and others.

The research team included molecular biologists, epidemiologists, and bioinformaticians from the NMSRC and the Ministry of Health.

Extension of Tender Date

SOHAR Port and Freezone invites Tenderers in the following Tender

NO	Tender Ref	Tender Title	Tender Fee OMR
1	2021/004	Digital Printing Services	RO 25/-
2	2021/006	Translation and Copywriting Services	RO 25/-
3	2021/007	Photography & Videography Services	RO 25/-
4	2021/008	Offset Printing Services	RO 25/-

- Tenderers can request to receive the electronic tender documents from 9:00 am on Tuesday **19/01/2021** until 4:00 pm on Monday **15/02/2021**.
- Tenderers to follow the below procedures and steps to obtain the electronic tender documents:
Step 1: Interested Tenderers should remit the stated tender fees as per the below bank details:

Account Name	Sohar Industrial Port Co
Account Number	3101-007970-500
Bank Name	Oman Arab bank SAOC – Main Br
SWIT	OMABOMRXXXX
Note: Bank transfers is the only mode of payment accepted	

Step 2: Tenderers to send the following documents:

- A request for the electronic tender documents
- Scanned bank transfer
- The firm's commercial registration documents

All shall be communicated to the following e-mail address:
sipc.procurement@soharportandfreezone.com

Step 3: Tenderers will receive the electronic tender documents

- Due to the COVID-19 situation, the below procedure is still valid as of today for the submission of the bids. If the current situation remains until the date of submission, tenderers will receive a circular with clear steps and procedures on the submission protocol.
- The Technical and Commercial proposals must be in separate, sealed envelopes marked "Technical and Commercial" addressed to:
SOHAR Port and Freezone
Secretary of Tender committee
Tender Reference No. 2020/0219
Tender Name

The exterior of the sealed envelope shall not reveal the identity of the tenderer!

- The sealed tender envelope should be deposited in the tender box at the reception desk of SOHAR Port Administration Building before **4:00pm on Monday, 1/03/2021**
- SOHAR reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reasons
- All SMES are requested to provide their Green Card along with the required documents
- For any clarification regarding the tenders please send an e-mail to :
sipc.procurement@soharportandfreezone.com

soharportandfreezone.com

Trending

ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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Cancelling the No Objection Certificate (NOC) in Oman will help increase competitiveness between Omani and expatriate workers



Story on NOC in Oman



 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

3,600 VIEWS



Maghrib Minute news video



The Maghrib Minute news video got 3,600 views and reached 11,600 people on Facebook.

 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

902 LIKES



Photo story on NOC in Oman



A photo story on NOC in Oman had 902 likes on Instagram

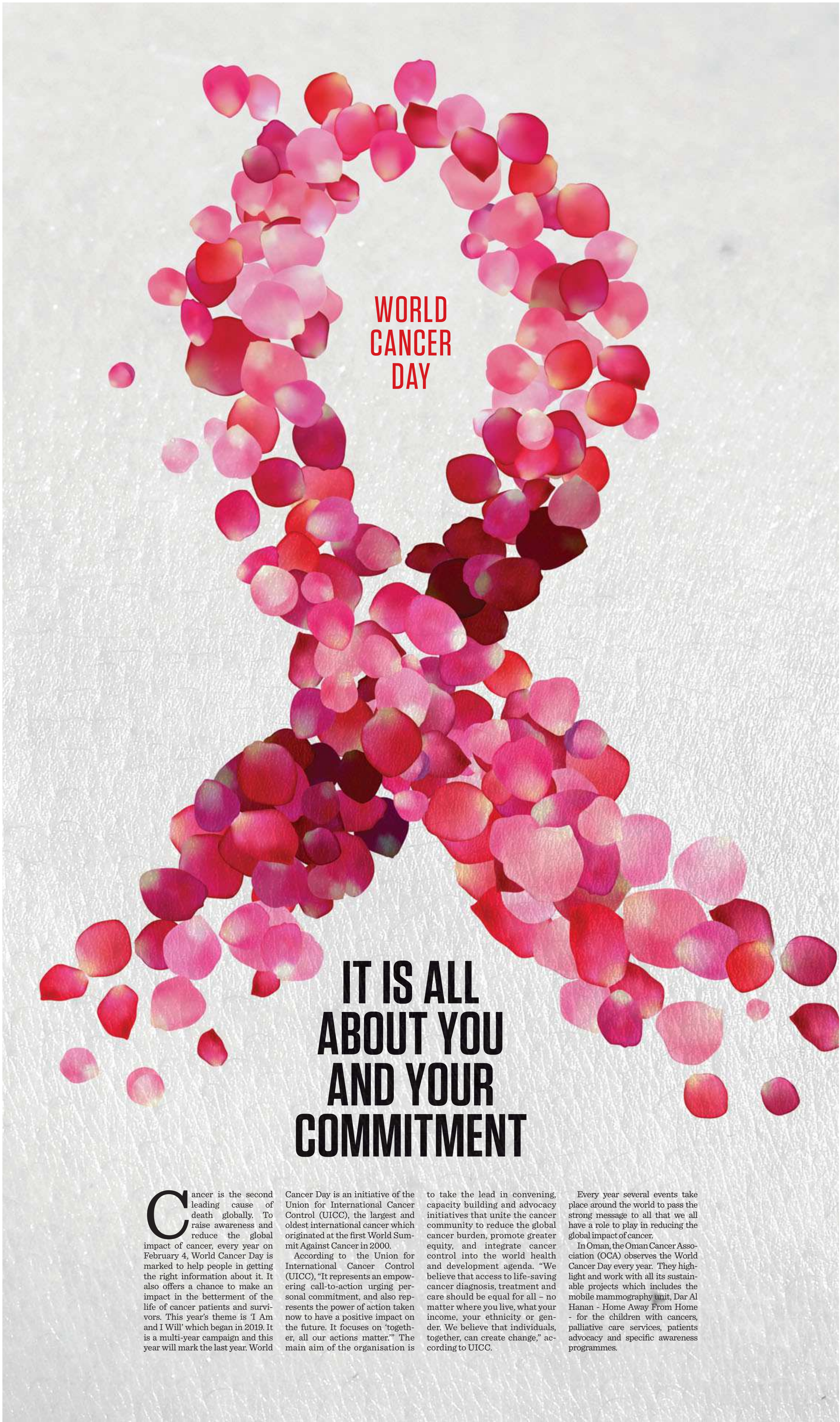


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WORLD
CANCER
DAY

IT IS ALL ABOUT YOU AND YOUR COMMITMENT

Cancer is the second leading cause of death globally. To raise awareness and reduce the global impact of cancer, every year on February 4, World Cancer Day is marked to help people in getting the right information about it. It also offers a chance to make an impact in the betterment of the life of cancer patients and survivors. This year's theme is 'I Am and I Will' which began in 2019. It is a multi-year campaign and this year will mark the last year. World

Cancer Day is an initiative of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), the largest and oldest international cancer which originated at the first World Summit Against Cancer in 2000. According to the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), "It represents an empowering call-to-action urging personal commitment, and also represents the power of action taken now to have a positive impact on the future. It focuses on 'together, all our actions matter.'" The main aim of the organisation is

to take the lead in convening, capacity building and advocacy initiatives that unite the cancer community to reduce the global cancer burden, promote greater equity, and integrate cancer control into the world health and development agenda. "We believe that access to life-saving cancer diagnosis, treatment and care should be equal for all – no matter where you live, what your income, your ethnicity or gender. We believe that individuals, together, can create change," according to UICC.

Every year several events take place around the world to pass the strong message to all that we all have a role to play in reducing the global impact of cancer. In Oman, the Oman Cancer Association (OCA) observes the World Cancer Day every year. They highlight and work with all its sustainable projects which includes the mobile mammography unit, Dar Al Hanan - Home Away From Home - for the children with cancers, palliative care services, patients advocacy and specific awareness programmes.



DEVELOPMENT WORKS

Tender Board awards projects worth more than OMR15mn

MUSCAT: The Tender Board on Wednesday awarded projects worth more than OMR15.23 million during its meeting held under the chairmanship of Dr Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy, Chairman of the Tender Board. The tenders, which ranged from medical supplies and computer systems to development projects and services benefiting the public, were distributed as follows:

Procurement of medical supplies and blood transfusion apparatus OMR6,248,219);

Supply of computer systems for school students from families benefiting from the Social Security Scheme OMR3,499,925;



Supply of medicines
Supply of medicines to the Royal Hospital OMR1,358,040;

Supply of surgical equipment for dialysis units in health estab-

lishments under the Ministry of Health OMR409,493.

Maintenance services and spare parts for medical equipment at the Royal Hospital OMR895,796;

Renewal of tenancy contract for the Courts Complex in the Wilayat of A'Seeb OMR226,800;

Additional works for the tender on designing consultancy services

and supervision of A'Rustaq slope dual carriageway, the Governorate of South Al Batinah OMR122,655

Additional works
Additional works for the tender on designing consultancy services and supervision of Al Sa'ada Sports Complex's expansion project, Dhofar Governorate OMR45,000.

Additional works for the tender the setting up of a fish market at the fishing port in A'Seeb OMR196,341.

Additional works for the tender on designing consultancy services and supervision of a project to set up a fishing port in the Wilayat of Qurayat OMMR8,954.

Additional works for the internal tender on consultancy services and training for projects department of the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation OMR24,252.

Cultural Channel
Contract with Utelsat for renting space area for exchange and transmission of the Cultural Channel from Salalah to Muscat and the dissemination of the earth station television's digital transmission (DVB-T2) programmes OMR1,039,000); of contract for radio and television transmission via NileSat OMR1,155,000.

- ONA

EXPAT RECRUITMENT

FROM A1 Fee hike decision a right step to protect expatriate workers

"We are now in a new phase of employment, and people who are likely to talk about the negative aspects of this increase in fees are those who engage in questionable practices to secure worker permits for expats," said Al Hosani. "This measure is in fact a step to protect investors and genuine holders of expatriate work permits from such trafficking operations."

"We have had, thanks to the 50 years of our renaissance, plenty of skilled and experienced Omani workers employed across multiple sectors, carrying out their jobs in a capable manner. There are many nationals who have the advanced qualifications needed to work here." The undersecretary went on to say that hiring more Omanis would give them the confidence at the workplace. He added that issues that impact the performance of the private sector, such as bureaucracy, delays in transactions and a lack of clarity in procedures, are being addressed by the Ministry of Labour and other government bodies.

Nasr Al Hosani also addressed the concerns of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which said the increase in expatriate recruitment fees would

have undesirable effects on the economy. He said that all decisions by the ministry had been made after consultation with the OCCI and other relevant bodies involved in the running and planning of the national economy.

"There has always been coordination between the Ministry of Labour and the OCCI," he explained. "That exchange has not taken place for just this decision, but has always been there. We also consult with our partners in government and other associated organisations. "I don't understand what the problem is," he said. "Frankly, many of these jobs at senior, supervisor, or technical level, are occupied by Omanis across many sectors. This decision was not made to help just job seekers, but Omanis already employed who will look to take up these jobs and progress in their careers."

Responding to suggestions from the OCCI for the fee increase to take place in 2022, Al Hosani said, "The decision on increasing fees to recruit expatriate workers will take place 90 days after the date of its issuance. We remain in continuous contact with all parties to hear any suggestions they might have in this context."

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Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

إعلان مناقصة Tender Notice

The Internal Tender Committee at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology
In AL Khuwair floats tenders for the following Projects:

TENDER NO	TENDER NAME	DATE OF PUBLISHING	LAST DATE TO PURCHASE TENDER DOCUMENT	SUBMISSION DATE	COMPANIES WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THIS TENDER	DOCUMENT PRICE
(ITA/HQ-1/2/2021)	RESTRUCTURE & SETUP OF MTCIT NEW OFFICE BUILDING (Former Ministry of Civil service office Building)	4/02/2021	15/02/2021	8/03/2021	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE TENDER BOARD IN SUPPLY (FIRST CLASS)	(150/-) ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY OMANI RIAL NON-REFUNDABLE
(MTCIT/HQ-2/2/2021)	REPAIRS GUARD RAIL AT AL BATINAH NORTH GOVERNORATE ASPHALT ROADS	4/02/2021	18/02/2021	18/03/2021	EXPERIENCED SME COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE TENDER BOARD AND AUTHORITY OF SMALL-MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENTT (RIYADA) IN (FIRST CLASS)	(25/-) TWINTY FIVE OMANI RIAL NON-REFUNDABLE

Interested Companies registered with Tender Board may obtain Tender documents from the E-Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document. Tenders should be submitted online on given website. The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee issued by local bank in the Sultanate of Oman for the value of (1%) of the Tender value validity for (90) days, and addressed to (Chairman of the Internal Tender Committee). And hard copy of the same should be submitted manually to the Tenders Section, Tenders and Contracts Department (1st Floor), Ministry of Transport Building at Al Khuwair before 11:00 am on submission date .

CORRESPONDANCE:
1. Tender Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the TENDER Inquiry must be online at e-Tendering System. (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)
2. E-Tendering System Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the e-Tendering System technical support must be directed to the following helpdesk email address and phone number. Tel: +968 24166670 e-mail: etenderhd@mtc.gov.om

INTERNAL TENDER COMMITTEE

[www.mtcit.gov.om](#)

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TENDER NOTICE

The Internal Tender Committee of Port of Duqm Company SAOC., hereby announces the following Tender:

Tender No.	Description	Last Date of receiving Specifications	Date of Bid Submission	Suppliers	Tender Fee OMR	Place of Submission
ITC/T/002/2021	Legal Advisory for Port of Duqm' s Container Terminal Concession	11 th Feb 2021	24 th Feb 2021	Only firms With Maritime expertise	75/- OMR Non Refundable	Port of Duqm Company 3rd floor

Taking into consideration the following:
All specialized companies that wish to participate in the tender must deposit the tender amount into the bank account of the Company (details of the bank account is set out hereunder) and submit the original payment receipt of the tender along with a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate and the contact details of the authorized individual (business card) to the address presented below.

From 08:00 - 13:00 and 14:00 (Sunday – Thursday).

Payment Information:

1- Bank Transfer:

Account Name	Port of Duqm Company S.A.O.C
Account Number	0423047518510013
Bank Name	Bank Muscat
Branch	Ghala Corporate Branch
Bank ID Code	BMUSOMRXXXX

2- Credit/Debit Card at Port of Duqm Muscat Office.

Complete Tender documents should be submitted in sealed envelope with red wax with tender number and title and addressed to the "Chairman of Internal Tender Committee". The envelope should not make any reference to the bidder details. All applicants are required to submit the Tender in the Tender box in the main office of Port of Duqm Company at or before 02:00 PM on the assigned date for submission of the Tender. Tenders submitted after the above mentioned date and time shall not be considered.

* The company is not obliged to accept the lowest offer in any other offer without any justifiable reasons.
* The company reserve the right to issue the order either or part or full for the quoted items without any justifiable reasons.
* For any clarification, please contact us through tenders@portduqm.com

Port of Duqm Company S.A.O.C.
PO Box: 2409, PC: 111, Sultanate of Oman,
Almashreq Building, 18 November Street, N. Azaila
T: (+968) 24342800 | F: (+968) 24587343 | www.portofduqm.com

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

WHO team visits Wuhan Institute of Virology

WUHAN: The team of experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) visited the Wuhan Institute of Virology on Wednesday, as part of their mission to investigate the origins of COVID-19, local media reported.

The WHO team visited the P4 lab inside the Wuhan Institute of Virology, the state-owned Global Times reported. The team of WHO experts arrived in Wuhan on Janu-

ary 14 to investigate the origins of COVID-19, as the world's first cluster of infected patients were detected in the city in December 2019. The WHO team only began fieldwork last week, after completing two weeks of quarantine upon arrival. The team has visited local hospitals where the first wave of COVID-19 patients was treated and a local market that was believed to be associated with the

first cluster of infected patients.

The Wuhan Institute of Virology became a focal point of the WHO team's mission in China after a number of conspiracy theories suggested that the new coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2, may have leaked from the secretive lab where thousands of coronavirus samples were collected and stored.

Shi Zhengli, a leading virologist at the Wuhan lab, is widely known

as the "bat woman" for her extensive research into the coronavirus that caused the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in China in 2003. Shi spent more than five years to collect coronavirus samples from bat caves in southwestern China. Her research reached the conclusion that the coronavirus that caused SARS came from the horseshoe bats found in those caves. **ANI**

Myanmar police file charges against Aung San Suu Kyi

Military officers who searched Suu Kyi's residence found hand-held radios that were imported illegally



NAYPYITAW: Myanmar's police filed charges against ousted and detained leader Aung San Suu Kyi on Wednesday for breaches of the country's import and export law, according to a police document.

The police are seeking her detention until February 15.

Military officers who searched Suu Kyi's residence found hand-held radios that were imported illegally and used without permission, the document from a police station in the capital Naypyitaw said.

A separate document showed police filed charges against ousted President Win Myint for offences under the Disaster Management Law. Reports say he is alleged to have broken COVID-19 rules during a campaign rally.

Myanmar's military arrested Suu Kyi, President Win Myint and several allies in a coup on Monday.

The army declared a one-year state of emergency. It said authorities had failed to resolve allegations of fraud in November's election. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) party won the

vote by a landslide.

Suu Kyi has not been seen since her arrest. NLD party spokesman Kyi Toe said she was in good health at a separate location and would stay there for the time being. His comments cannot be immediately be confirmed.

Latest developments in Myanmar

The NLD on Wednesday said its offices in several regions of the country had been raided, and documents, computers and laptops seized. The raids started on Tues-

day, the party said in a statement on Facebook.

It urged authorities to stop what it said were unlawful acts.

Myanmar's newly declared leader, General Min Aung Hlaing, said the military government installed after Monday's coup plans to carry out an investigation into alleged fraud in last year's elections.

The military government will also prioritize the COVID-19 outbreak and the economy, a state newspaper reported on Wednesday.

G7 slams military coup

The G7 nations and the EU said they were "united in condemning the coup in Myanmar," in a statement on Wednesday.

"We are deeply concerned by the detention of political leaders and civil society activists, including State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and President Win Myint, and targeting of the media," foreign ministers from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the UK and the US, together with the EU High Representative said. **nw**

ARMY VETERAN

UK pandemic fundraising hero Tom Moore dies from coronavirus

LONDON: The 100-year-old British army veteran Captain Tom Moore, who raised millions of pounds to help Britain's health service in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic last year, passed away with coronavirus in hospital on Tuesday.

In a statement confirming his death, his daughters said that he had been suffering from pneumonia during the past weeks and tested positive for COVID-19.

He had been taken to hospital in Bedfordshire, east England, when he needed help with his breathing at the weekend. His family said they were with him on Monday night during the last hours of his life.

"The last year of our father's life was nothing short of remarkable. He was rejuvenated and experienced things he'd only ever dreamed of," said the family statement.

Moore, who turned 100 last April, raised more than 32 million pounds (about 43.65 million U.S. dollars) for Britain's National Health Service by walking 100 laps of his garden during the country's first COVID lockdown last year.

His fundraising efforts won



the country's hearts and he was knighted by the Queen in July.

A Buckingham Palace spokesperson said Tuesday that the Queen sent private message of condolence to the family of Tom Moore.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson also sent his condolences to Moore's family.

British Health Secretary Matt Hancock was one of the first senior British officials to pay tribute to the pensioner hero, saying on his social media site: "I'm so sorry to hear that Captain Tom has passed away in hospital. He was a great British hero that showed the best of our country and I send my best wishes to his family at this time." **xinhua**

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DEMANDING IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Navalny’s sentence condemned, Russia denounces ‘interference’

MOSCOW: The list of voices from the international community demanding an immediate release of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny continued to grow on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Navalny was sentenced to 3 1/2 years in a penal colony for violating probation terms relating to a 2014 embezzlement case.

He will serve two years and eight months due to time already spent under house arrest. The outspoken Kremlin critic called the trial an attempt to “intimidate” the public.

UN human rights spokeswoman Ravina Shamdasani said on Wednesday that her office was

“deeply dismayed” that Navalny was sentence over a case that the European Court of Human Rights in 2017 had “unanimously found” to be “arbitrary, unfair and manifestly unreasonable.”

“We urge the authorities in Russia to immediately release all those detained for exercising their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression yesterday and over the past few weeks of protests across the country,” she added in a statement.

Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payne said her country is deeply concerned by the 44-year-old’s arrest and sentencing.

“We call for Mr Navalny’s im-

mediate and unconditional release,” she said in a statement.

Payne also raised concerns over the Kremlin’s treatment of peaceful protesters and journalists.

Germany: Verdict a ‘bitter blow’ for freedoms

German Chancellor Angela Merkel criticized the court’s decision as lawless and demanded an end to violence against peaceful protesters in Russia.

“The verdict against Alexei Navalny is far from any rule of law standards. Navalny must be released at once,” Merkel was quoted as saying in a tweet by her spokesman. **mw**



SWEETS OF OMAN SAOG
P.O. Box 49, Rusayl - 124, Sultanate of Oman

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

The Board of Directors of Sweet Oman SAOG (“Company”) is pleased to invite the shareholders to attend the company’s ordinary general meeting to be held at 3:00 pm on Thursday 18/02/2021, via the electronic platform to hold general meetings which can be accessed through the website of the Muscat Clearing and Depository Company (www.mcd.gov.om) if the quorum of the meeting is not completed, a second ordinary general meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Wednesday 24/02/2021 to discuss the following agenda:

- To discuss and approve the removal of the company’s auditor for the financial year ending 31/12/2020 (as per the annexure)
- To approve the appointment of an external auditor for the Company for the financial year ending December 31, 2020, and determine their fee.

According to the Company’s Articles of Association and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology issued by the capital market authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- A legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCDC.
- Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the General Meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meeting. If the shareholder’s shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be canceled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the General Meeting.

For further information please contact Mr. Muhannad Al-Zadjali on 97081112



MUSCAT THREAD MILLS SAOG
The preferred source
P.O. Box 122, P.C. 124, Rusayl, Sultanate of Oman, Ph. No. 24446806, Fax: 24446807

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I present the report of Muscat Thread Mills SAOG for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Preview of Results:

During 2020, Covid-19 pandemic has taken a toll on business activities throughout the globe. Due to closure of non-essential economic activities and lockdowns in different countries almost during entire year, apparel and soft home industry, amongst other industries, had suffered severe setback. Your company was not an exception to aftereffect of pandemic. However, with various control measures put in place, your company could minimize the losses, which were mainly due to depreciation and other provisions.

Revenue for the year was at OMR 2,778,093 compared to OMR 3,635,901 achieved during previous year 2019. Company incurred net loss of OMR 38,188 during the year as against profit after tax of OMR 113,321 earned during the year 2019. Net worth as on 31 December 2020 was as at OMR 1,785,203 compared to OMR 1,942,742 as on 31 December 2019.

Operations:

During the year under review, company sold 852 metric tons against 1,263 metric tons sold during last year. Company’s revenue is mainly generated from exports, which accounts for about 90 - 95% of total revenue.

Outlook:

It is believed that businesses would take reasonable time to reach to normalcy from adverse impact of pandemic. The company is taking focused approach to establish its presence in new markets, to diversify into different product categories, to obtain optimum product mix of volume business, along with high value items, for long term sustainability.

International Accreditation:

Company has upgraded its international quality certification of OekoTex Standard 100 to annexure 6, class 1 level that is related to the product and had also upgraded its quality system accreditation from ISO 9001:2008 to ISO 9001:2015 being the latest level in quality system.

Human Resources:

Company encourages recruitment and retaining of local talent in each area of activity. Providing on the job training and as per the identified needs; outsourced professional training is awarded to local employees to motivate them and to increase their participation in various activities. Company provides healthy and cordial working atmosphere to its employees to obtain best results from them.

Corporate Governance:

Board of Directors and the Management are committed to the principles of Corporate Governance as laid down by the Capital Markets Authority.

Internal Control Systems:

Company is employing adequate resources commensurate with the nature and size of its operations to ensure that effective internal control systems are in place and to comply with all applicable laws, regulations and ensure safeguarding of company’s assets.

The Board, through the Audit Committee, reviews the adequacy, effectiveness and compliance of the control procedures. Further, internal and external auditors submit their reports with their observations and recommendations for improvements in the existing internal control systems. Management reviews those recommendations and takes necessary steps for continuous improvement.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):

Company acknowledges and appreciates Capital Market Authority’s initiative on the Corporate Social Responsibility and look at various alternatives in reaching out to the needs of the society. The CSR charter is in place and management have made necessary plans for CSR, as approved by your Board.

During the year, company paid OMR 2,400 on such activities.

Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and employees of the company, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Hitham bin Tarik for his wise leadership and generous support to the private sector. We also thank the government, under his leadership, for taking timely and effective measures to protect the people and to support the economy during this critical period. We take this opportunity to congratulate His Majesty on the first accession day anniversary.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to shareholders for continued confidence reposed in the company and to employees for their dedication and hard work.

We also thank the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment promotion, other government authorities/ ministries, the Capital Market Authority, Muscat Securities Market, Muscat Clearing & Depository Co. and our bankers for their support.

Chairman
2 February 2021

Statement of financial position

	2020 RO	2019 RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	698,619	786,757
Right-of-use asset	21,814	34,014
Deferred tax asset	81,370	69,997
Total non-current assets	801,803	890,768
Current assets		
Inventories	857,402	876,426
Trade and other receivables	969,970	1,061,357
Bank balances and cash	213,007	40,319
Total current assets	2,040,379	1,978,102
Total assets	2,842,182	2,868,870
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	1,591,352	1,591,352
Legal reserve	201,450	201,450
(Accumulated loss) / retained earnings	(7,599)	149,940
Total equity	1,785,203	1,942,742
Liabilities		
Non-current liabilities		
Non-current portion of term loan	97,423	110,824
Non-current portion of lease liabilities	10,553	24,700
Employees’ end of service benefits	105,700	97,299
Total non-current liabilities	213,676	232,823
Current liabilities		
Current portion of term loan	33,600	33,600
Bank borrowings	306,788	284,029
Current portion of lease liabilities	14,147	13,341
Trade and other payables	483,217	340,122
Taxation	5,551	22,213
Total current liabilities	843,303	693,305
Total liabilities	1,056,979	926,128
Total equity and liabilities	2,842,182	2,868,870
Net assets per share	0.112	0.122

Statement of comprehensive income

	2020 RO	2019 RO
INCOME		
Revenue from contracts with customers	2,778,093	3,635,901
Cost of goods sold	(2,047,976)	(2,799,019)
Gross profit	730,117	836,882
Other income	6,089	494
Allowance for expected credit losses written back	--	4,578
	736,206	841,954
EXPENSES		
Selling and distribution	478,268	466,990
General and administration	188,027	184,572
Provision for slow moving inventories (net)	10,210	10,639
Allowance for expected credit losses against trade and other receivables	55,000	--
	731,505	662,201
Profit from operations	4,701	179,753
Finance charges	(49,012)	(44,658)
(Loss) / profit for the year before taxation	(44,311)	135,095
Taxation	6,123	(21,774)
Net (loss) / profit and total comprehensive income for the year	(38,188)	113,321
Basic (loss) / earnings per share	(0.002)	0.007

The Company do not have any items under other comprehensive income.

Note: The complete accounts are available on MSM website. If required, the same can also be provided by email or post in Arabic or English, in seven days, on receipt of written request from the shareholder.

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SPORTS





‘Everyone was ruthless’: Solskjaer as United thrash Southampton 9-0

With this win, United consolidated their position at the second spot in Premier League standings

MANCHESTER: After registering a comprehensive 9-0 win over Southampton in the Premier League, Manchester United coach Ole Gunnar Solskjaer hailed the ruthless aggression displayed by his side.

With this win, United consolidated their position at the second spot in Premier League standings and the side is now tied with top-placed Manchester City. Both teams now have 44 points. As a result of the 9-0 win, United equalled the feat for largest margin of victory in the Premier League. United had earlier set the record in 1995 with a 9-0 win over Ipswich Town. Leicester City equalled the record in October 2019 after beating Southampton by the same margin.



9-0 WIN: As a result of the 9-0 win, United equalled the feat for largest margin of victory in the Premier League. United had earlier set the record in 1995 with a 9-0 win over Ipswich Town.

“They were ruthless, they drove it on. Harry Maguire, Victor Lindelof, David de Gea, Scott played it quickly into their half. They wanted it more and more. When you play football you have to make the most of it. [They] played like it could have been their last game so very pleased with everyone,” Goal.com quoted Solskjaer as saying.

“What I liked about it was the hunger and attitude to do the right things, get better, practice good habits, that’s the only way to get better. You can see loads of things we are working on. We want to be a bit unpredictable. The players did that excellently, freedom and imagination, played down the sides, it was positive and something we can look at,” he added.

Southampton got off to the worst possible start as Alexandre Jankewitz was shown a straight red card for a nasty challenge on Scott McTominay.

In the first half, Aaron Wan-

Bissaka, Marcus Rashford, Edinson Cavani and Jan Bednarek’s own goal made it 4-0. United did not let the momentum drop in the second half as the final 45 minutes saw five more goals being scored to hand the side a marvellous victory.

“Sometimes when you play 10 they sit behind and defend well. We switched it from side to side, got in behind, some good movements - we played it the way we had to,” said Solskjaer.

United will next square off against Everton in the Premier League on Saturday.

Rashford surpasses Cantona on Man Utd’s goalscorer list

Striker Marcus Rashford surpassed Eric Cantona’s goal tally for Manchester United with his strike against Southampton in an emphatic 9-0 win in the Premier League.

With this win, United consolidated its position at the second spot in Premier League standings and the side is now tied with top-placed Manchester City. Both teams now have 44 points. Converting Mason Greenwood’s low cross in the 25th minute Rashford earned his 83rd goal for the Reds - one more than Eric Cantona and that put him 25th on the all-time list of top goalscorers for United.

Up next for Rashford on the list of scorers to tick off is David Beckham, who found the target 85 times during his trophy-laded United career.

As a result of this comprehensive 9-0 win, United equalled the feat for largest margin of victory in the Premier League. United had earlier set the record in 1995 by registering a 9-0 win over Ipswich Town. Leicester City then also equalled the record in October 2019 after beating Southampton by the same margin.

Southampton got off to the worst possible start as Alexandre Jankewitz was shown a straight red card in the initial minutes of the match for a nasty challenge on Scott McTominay.

In the first half, United went on to register four goals as Aaron Wan-Bissaka, Marcus Rashford, a Jan Bednarek own goal and Edinson Cavani got among the goal scoring charts.

United did not let the momentum drop in the second half as the final 45 minutes saw five more goals being scored to hand the side a marvellous victory. Anthony Martial registered two goals, while McTominay, Bruno Fernandes and Daniel James scored one goal each.

Manchester United will next take on Everton in the Premier League season on Saturday. **ANI**

T20I SERIES

FOUR-MATCH TEST SERIES

South Africa T20I squad arrives in Lahore ahead of series against Pakistan

LAHORE: Ahead of the T20I series against Pakistan, South Africa T20I squad arrived “safe and sound” in Lahore on Wednesday.

“Touchdown Lahore! Your #Proteas T20 squad has arrived safe and sound for the series against Pakistan,” Cricket South Africa tweeted.

For the first time, Heinrich Klaasen will captain the Proteas’ T20I squad in the three-match series against Pakistan in Lahore from February 11-14.

South Africa are currently playing a Test against Pakistan. The hosts won the first Test and the second Test will be played from Thursday in Rawalpindi.

The strategy forms part of the measures put in place by CSA to ensure that the Test squad, captained by Quinton de Kock, can return to South Africa and satisfy the overseas travel COVID-19 quarantine protocol ahead of that team’s three-match Test Series against Australia.

The T20I squad boasts several new faces as the Proteas continue to rebuild after the losses of numerous players to retirement in recent times.

Okuhle Cele, Ryan Rickleton, and Jacques Snyman received their maiden national team call-



ups while Glenton Stuurman returned to the national team after a left quadriceps muscle strain saw him released from the Test squad ahead of the start of the second match against Sri Lanka.

Dwaine Pretorius, Tabraiz Shamsi, Lutho Sipamla, and George Linde from the Test squad have also been included in the T20I fixtures. They, along with Andile Phehlukwayo, Reeza Hendricks, and Jon-Jon Smuts, will offer the required experi-

ence that the predominantly youthful squad will require to excel in Lahore.

Proteas T20I squad: Heinrich Klaasen (captain), Nandre Burger, Okuhle Cele, Junior Dala, Bjorn Fortuin, Reeza Hendricks, George Linde, Janneman Malan, David Miller, Andile Phehlukwayo, Dwaine Pretorius, Ryan Rickleton, Tabraiz Shamsi, Lutho Sipamla, Jon-Jon Smuts, Pite van Biljon, Glenton Stuurman, Jacques Snyman. **ANI**



‘Back to training’: Rahane enjoys net session at Chepauk

CHENNAI: India’s Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane on Wednesday had a hit in the nets ahead of the upcoming four-match Test series against England.

Rahane shared a video on Twitter, in which he can be seen batting against net bowlers Saurabh Kumar and K Gowtham. “Back to training,” Rahane wrote as the caption. In the video, Rahane can be seen playing shots both on the backfoot and the frontfoot.

The Virat Kohli-led India squad had their first outdoor training session on Monday ahead of the first Test against India on Saturday as the trio had arrived earlier after being rested for the Sri Lanka tour.

India and England are set to lock horns in four Tests, three ODIs, and five T20Is.

The first two games of the Test series will be played in Chennai before the cricketers move to Ahmedabad for the third and fourth Test.

Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) secretary RS Ramasaamy on Tuesday confirmed that the first Test would be played behind closed doors while the second Test at Chepauk would have 50 per cent crowd in attendance. **ANI**

CRICKET ROUND-UP

BSC, ISM score contrasting victories in U-16 league

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Lakshmi Narayana and Luis Kerrigan’s terrific all-round performances powered Boshers Sports Centre (BSC) to a nail-biting 6-run victory against Indian School Wadi Kabir (ISWK) in a 30-over Junior League Under-16 clash at Muscat Municipality ground 2 in Amerat on Saturday.

Lakshmi topscored with 59 while Luis contributed 49 as BSC posted 219 for 9 on the board.

Siddh Mehta was the pick of ISWK bowlers, taking 4 for 35. ISWK’s response was led by Siddh Mehta’s superb 73 off 58 but BSC bowlers did a nice job, bowling them out for 210 in 30 overs.

Lakshmi, Ashish Valappil and Luis claimed two wickets each. **Brief Scores** (Junior League U16): Boshers Sports Centre 216 for 9 in 30 overs (Lakshmi Narayana 59 - 7x4, Luis Kerrigan 49 - 4x4, Siddh Mehta 4-35, Abhas Ajay 2-31) beat ISWK 210 all out in 30 overs (Siddh Mehta 73 - 10x4, Chaitra Jitesh 39 - 3x4, Lakshmi Narayana 2-32,



Harshil Dinesh Shetty and Gaurav Dinesh of MCCC U-13

Ashish Valappil 2-38, Luis Kerrigan 2-48) by 6 runs.

Sampath, Kuttiraja shine

In another Under-16 league game, Divyansh Sampath brilliant 3 for 11 and Shanmugarajan Kuttiraja’s magnificent 57 not out off only 29 balls were the highlights of Indian School Muscat’s (ISM) thumping 9-wicket win over Sri Lankan School Muscat (SLSM) at Muscat Municipality ground 1.

SLSM folded up for 104 in 27.5 overs largely to brilliant bowling by Divyansh and Glenalex Menezes who bagged 2 for 19.

ISM raced to the target in only 9 overs, scoring 105 for 1, thanks to Kuttiraja’s top knock.

Brief Scores (Junior League U16): Sri Lankan School Muscat 104 all out in 27.5 overs (Devin Wijayananda 37 - 5x4, Divyansh Sampath 3-11, Glenalex Menezes 2-19) lost to Indian School Muscat 105 for 1 in 9 overs (Shanmugarajan Kuttiraja 57 - 8x4) by 9 wickets. **Brief Scores** (Junior League U13): MCCC Red 139 for 2 in 20 overs (Shravan Sharat 56 - 2x4, Theertha So 35 - 1x4) lost to ISWK-B 140 for 2 in 17.4 overs (Vasudev Ram 41 - 2x4, Gautham Midhun 41 - 4x4) by 8 wickets.

Brief Scores (Junior League U13): MCCC Yellow 206 for 3 in 20 overs (Harshil Dinesh 64 - 6x4, Kriv Rajesh 49 - 8x4, Aneek Chakrovarty 42 - 6x4) beat PSM 108 for 8 in 20 overs (Asad Kashif 35 - 3x4, Gaurav Dinesh 3-7, Ayush Karthyic 2-10, Husain Maden 2-11) by 98 runs. **Brief Scores** (Junior League U13): Boshers Sports Centre A 148 for 4 in 20 overs (Jeyapranesh Ayyappan 40 - 4x4, Nimish Sandesh 37 - 4x4, Kuttiraja K Giriharan 2-27) lost to Indian school Muscat 149 for 1 in 11.3 overs (Pachisia Ojjus 80 - 11x4, Shah Jeet 37 - 4x4) by 9 wickets.

Brief Scores (Junior League U13): Boshers Sports Centre B 37 all out in 17.5 overs (Adarsh Kumar 13 - 1x4, Kavish Rajeshkumar 3-7, Saumya Bhavin 3-10, Ayush Shetty 2-5, Edwin Robins 2-11) lost to ISWK-A 38 for 1 in 2.4 overs (Nilaksh Vats 27 - 4x4) by 9 wickets.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES
The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by April 2021 reaching \$57.72, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by 83 cents. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS LOWER
The MSM index closed at 3,603.71 points, down 0.52 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 0.81 per cent at 534.15 points. Al Jazeera Service Insurance, up 7.84 per cent, was the top gainer while Galfar Engineering, down 8.16 per cent, was the top loser.



UNIFIED CONCEPTS: The portal provides fast and safe disclosure technology as it provides unified concepts for financial information and disclosure elements allowing fast, accurate, timely and effective exchange of information. - **File picture**

CMA plans to launch new disclosure portal



XBRL is a globally recognised system for disclosure of financial and non-financial statements of the listed companies and funds

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Capital Market Authority (CMA) is preparing to launch XBRL disclosure portal by organising introductory workshops for the regulated entities about the XBRL portal to enhance the regulatory infrastructure related to disclosure of issuers of securities, insurance companies and brokers in line with the Oman Vision 2040 to provide quality services through digital transformation. XBRL is a globally recognised system for disclosure of financial and non-financial statements of

the listed companies and funds to enhance transparency and efficiency in stock markets which reflects positively on the confidence of market participants. The portal provides fast and safe disclosure technology as it provides unified concepts for financial information and disclosure elements allowing fast, accurate, timely and effective exchange of information in a comparable manner and provide the ability to conduct the required comparison, studies and analysis in an efficient electronic way and reduce audit period. XBRL transfers financial state-

ments and data using IFRS Taxonomies and coding readable by both reader and computers for easy access to the information therein and to compare the contents. CMA, in collaboration with IRIS Business Services Limited, will organise nine introductory workshops from February 8-14, 2021 for capital market institutions, public joint-stock companies, insurance companies and brokers, investment funds and the companies operating in the field of securities in addition to accredited audit firms. CMA concluded the XBRL contract last year.

NEW STRATEGIES

Mena's big bet for sustainable and inclusive future

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Governments across the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) region have been adopting strategies to reduce their reliance on oil and gas and diversify their economies. The UAE, for example, has set clear national goals for a more sustainable future through numerous initiatives, including a focus on the digital economy, boosting SME participation, and the UAE Energy Strategy 2050, which sets a target of 50 per cent clean energy by 2050.

Badr Jafar, CEO of Crescent Enterprises and Managing Director of the Crescent Group, has emphasised the critical role that business must play in this transition, and its responsibility to generate the urgently needed opportunities for youth towards a more sustainable and inclusive future for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

Speaking in keynote session titled "Implementing Stakeholder Capitalism in Mena" at the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Davos Agenda 2021, Badr Jafar said, "Businesses have no other choice but to be at the forefront of addressing our region's social and environmental challenges. It is not just a moral imperative, it is a long-term commercial one, and the inextricable link between long-term economic success and positive societal impact is becoming increasingly clear for all to see."

The creation of new opportunities for youth is an increasingly urgent imperative, with an estimated 10 per cent of working hours in the region wiped out



in 2020 due to COVID-19, the equivalent of 24 million full-time jobs being lost. The Global Risks Perception Survey published last week by the World Economic Forum highlights youth disillusionment and erosion of social cohesion as critical short-term threats to the world.

"A single-minded focus on job creation prevents us from seeing the true challenge and opportunity that lies ahead, and that is instilling a strong sense of purpose, and a feeling of belonging within our youth. Therefore, we urgently need to deploy all the tools at our disposal to strengthen the fabric of our local communities, including through community service and volunteerism," Jafar added.

Addressing environmental sustainability, Jafar commented that the Middle East is especially vulnerable to climate shocks, and faces a host of environmental risks such as water scarcity, high levels of pollution, and biodiversity loss.

INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

ICAI Muscat Chapter begins knowledge series on VAT



VALUE ADDED TAX: Starting early is instrumental in ensuring that VAT implementation runs smoothly for any business. - **Supplied picture**

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Muscat Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) launched its VAT (value added tax) knowledge series for its members in of Oman as part of its continuing education programme knowledge series. CA N Ramananda Prabhu, the Chairperson, welcomed the members and stated the plan to further enhance the standing of the Muscat Chapter of the ICAI and to conduct knowledge series, seminars, events on a variety of topics that would help all accounting professionals become great business leaders. He also provided an overview of the activities and the event carried out by the Chapter for its members during the year. He stated that these included professional education as well as family events for its members. CA Prabhu congratulated Dr Khalfan Al Barwani, the chief guest and Chairman of College of Banking and Financial Studies for having bagged two research awards from ICAI Research Foundation recently. He also thanked Al Barwani and his team for their spontaneous support to Muscat Chapter ICAI. Al Barwani commended the initiative of the Muscat Chapter for capacity building of all finance

professionals in Oman. He said, "Starting early is instrumental in ensuring that VAT implementation runs smoothly for any business, and also being properly trained is critical to ensure programme success, so businesses need to provide the best possible training for all employees who will be handling the transition to VAT. VAT will also improve the economy of Oman and also contribute to the national exchequer." Taysir Nasib Al Rawahi, Director Tax services at Crowe in Oman, provided an overview of the tax landscape in the GCC. He discussed the current state of play with VAT in other GCC countries and highlighted key nuances which businesses and accounting professionals should consider when getting the businesses ready for VAT. Aastha Rangan, Past Chairperson of ICAI Muscat Chapter and Director of Crowe Oman, continued the discussions by taking the audience through some of the key features and mechanisms of VAT. Binit Shah, Partner of Crowe UAE highlighted the key transactional and practical challenges businesses may encounter while transitioning to the VAT regime. Further, the Crowe team addressed the questions they receive from the audience regarding VAT implementation. Pugal T, Senior consultant from Tally Solutions presented how

VAT compliance can be simplified with Technology. Nandaraj Shetty, Country manager of Tally Solutions Middle East also was present in the event. CA Sanil Varghese, the Vice-Chairman, proposed a vote of thanks to Crowe Oman for their very informative and interactive session on VAT. He thanked the Tally Solutions for their continued support as a technology partner. He also thanked CBFS for being the official sponsor for the ICAI-Muscat Chapter, the Chairmen, the committee members and the parent - Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, for their continued support and guidance. CA Shilpa Pawani, CPE Sub-Committee member compered the programme. ICAI-Muscat Chapter is sponsored by the College of Banking and Financial Studies (CBFS) and is set up under the Memorandum of Understanding between The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), New Delhi and The College of Banking and Financial Studies, Sultanate of Oman and has the objective of providing Continuing Professional Education to the members of the ICAI and this process of professional development is extended to the accountants and finance professionals of all nationalities. The chapter was established in 2008 and has over 300 members.



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MARKET

MSM index ends lower

Al Jazeera Service Insurance, up 7.84 per cent, was the top gainer, while Galfar Engineering, down 8.16 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,603.71 points, down 0.52 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up 0.81 per cent at 534.15 points. Al Jazeera Service Insurance, up 7.84 per cent, was the top gainer, while Galfar Engineering, down 8.16 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Al Madina Investment was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded and Bank Muscat was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 654 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR2.0 million, with more than 10.7 million shares changing hands. Out of 40 traded stocks, 10 advanced, 13 declined and 17 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for OMR330,000 while Omani investors were net buyers for

OMR303,000 followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR27,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 5,386.122 points, down by 0.77 per cent. Oman Qatar Insurance, Al Madina Investment, National Life Insurance, and Al Sharqia Investment were up by 5.26 per cent, 4.35 per cent, 2.92 per cent, and 2.74 per cent respectively. Ahlia Insurance, Sohar International Bank, Al Omaniya Financial, Oman United Insurance, and United Finance were down by 7.78 per cent, 4.49 per cent, 4.41 per cent, 2.56 per cent and 2.38 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 4,603.73 points, up 0.46 per cent. Jazeera Steel, Al Maha Ceramics, and Al Anwar Ceramic were up by 6.67 per cent, 2.36 per cent, and 2.14 per cent respectively. Galfar Engineering was down by 8.16 per cent. — **United Securities**

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
SECURITIES
MARKET

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value.....	Diff.....	Diff%
MSM 30 INDEX	3,627.21	3,601.42	3,603.72	3,622.61	-18.89	-0.52
FINANCIAL INDEX	5,435.66	5,380.56	5,386.12	5,428.08	-41.95	-0.77
Services Index	1,602.28	1,597.12	1,598.49	1,597.48	1.01	0.06
Industry Index	4,603.96	4,563.62	4,603.73	4,582.77	20.96	0.46
MSM Shariah Index	534.27	532.15	534.15	529.87	4.29	0.81
MSM TR INDEX	4,139.47	4,110.03	4,112.65	4,134.21	-21.56	-0.52

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
10,735,418	2,058,369	654	20,275,739,153	10	13	17	40

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

ISSN	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																
OM0000000216	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	941,184	210,519	94	0.216	0.226	0.216	0.224	0.210	0.014	6.667	0.222	0.221	0.222	0.100	27,977,143
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	960,250	71,816	62	0.074	0.075	0.074	0.075	0.073	0.002	2.740	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	6,750,000
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	358,000	93,204	26	0.262	0.262	0.260	0.260	0.254	0.006	2.362	0.260	0.258	0.260	0.100	14,300,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	81,789	25,681	12	0.314	0.314	0.312	0.314	0.310	0.004	1.290	0.312	0.312	0.314	0.100	253,640,511
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,083,781	436,683	33	0.400	0.404	0.400	0.402	0.400	0.002	0.500	0.402	0.402	0.404	0.100	1,306,308,061
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	28,789	4,030	6	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.100	11,900,000
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	73,000	21,900	5	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.300	0.300	0.308	0.100	60,000,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	70,772	19,108	13	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.000	0.000	0.270	0.270	0.278	0.100	89,335,632
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	278,551	18,509	18	0.066	0.067	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.000	0.000	0.066	0.066	0.067	0.100	13,200,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	79,386	60,651	12	0.764	0.764	0.760	0.764	0.764	0.000	0.000	0.764	0.764	0.768	0.100	573,000,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	271,450	113,246	9	0.420	0.420	0.416	0.418	0.420	-0.002	-0.476	0.416	0.410	0.430	0.100	272,094,888
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST&FIN	76,375	6,573	6	0.086	0.087	0.086	0.086	0.087	-0.001	-1.149	0.087	0.085	0.087	0.100	17,200,000
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR.	176,094	66,928	16	0.386	0.386	0.380	0.380	0.390	-0.010	-2.564	0.380	0.380	0.390	0.100	38,000,000
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FIN.S	50,500	3,302	6	0.065	0.066	0.065	0.065	0.068	-0.003	-4.412	0.066	0.065	0.066	0.100	18,975,798
OM0000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	22,960	1,952	2	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.089	-0.004	-4.494	0.085	0.084	0.092	0.100	206,933,072
Total	15	4,552,941	1,154,103	320												
Parallel Market																
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	1,254,725	344,889	79	0.266	0.280	0.266	0.275	0.255	0.020	7.843	0.278	0.278	0.280	0.100	16,831,175
OM0000006979	OMAN QATAR INSUR.	80,000	8,000	6	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.095	0.005	5.263	0.100	0.096	0.100	0.100	10,000,000
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	1,945,073	47,071	32	0.023	0.025	0.023	0.024	0.023	0.001	4.348	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.100	4,971,633
OM0000007043	NATIONAL LIFEINS.	34,241	12,053	7	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.352	0.342	0.010	2.924	0.352	0.354	0.352	0.100	93,280,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	923,453	263,805	65	0.284	0.297	0.280	0.286	0.280	0.006	2.143	0.290	0.286	0.296	0.100	84,717,113
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	7,994	735	1	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.091	0.090	0.100	11,040,000
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	65,710	5,524	15	0.083	0.085	0.083	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.085	0.085	0.085	0.100	2,820,002
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	10,279	6,030	4	0.680	0.680	0.660	0.664	0.664	0.000	0.000	0.680	0.600	0.660	0.100	104,580,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	210,710	28,245	11	0.135	0.135	0.134	0.134	0.134	0.000	0.000	0.134	0.128	0.134	0.100	217,876,812
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	1,834	159	2	0.087	0.087	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.000	0.000	0.086	0.086	0.090	0.100	10,750,000
OM0000001889	SALALAH MILLS	660	327	1	0.496	0.496	0.496	0.550	0.550	0.000	0.000	0.496	0.000	0.496	0.100	27,479,685
OM0000002872	OMAN OIL MARKETING	1,470	1,035	7	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.780	0.780	0.000	0.000	0.704	0.000	0.704	0.100	47,794,500
OM0000003000	AL MAHA MARKETING	3,000	291	1	0.586	0.644	0.586	0.586	0.586	0.000	0.000	0.644	0.586	0.644	0.100	40,434,000
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	3,000	291	1	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.096	0.097	0.100	92,593,479
OM0000000478	MADINA TAKAFUL	355,550	31,647	19	0.089	0.090	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.089	0.089	0.091	0.100	15,575,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	100,000	5,000	2	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.100	35,720,317
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	1,600	163	2	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.000	0.102	0.095	0.102	0.100	20,400,000
OM0000005280	OMAN ARAB BANK	88,825	12,436	4	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.141	-0.001	-0.709	0.140	0.140	0.145	0.100	233,717,400
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	304,092	28,978	24	0.096	0.097	0.095	0.095	0.096	-0.001	-1.042	0.096	0.096	0.097	0.100	142,500,000
OM0000001517	HSCB BANK OMAN	121,000	9,680	5	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.081	-0.001	-1.235	0.080	0.077	0.080	0.100	160,025,023
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	40,422	2,038	9	0.050	0.052	0.050	0.050	0.051	-0.001	-1.961	0.051	0.051	0.052	0.100	73,130,073
OM0000004925	ALBATRAH POWER	93,489	4,585	5	0.049	0.050	0.049	0.049	0.050	-0.001	-2.000	0.050	0.049	0.050	0.100	33,069,484
OM0000005274	UNITED FINANCE	110,000	4,521	5	0.042	0.042	0.041	0.041	0.042	-0.001	-2.381	0.041	0.041	0.042	0.100	14,314,921
OM0000006912	AHLIA INSURANCE	228,250	75,897	12	0.340	0.340	0.330	0.332	0.360	-0.028	-7.778	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.100	33,200,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	196,600	8,847	12	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.049	-0.004	-8.163	0.045	0.045	0.047	0.100	13,049,129
Total	25	6,182,477	904,266	334												

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WORLD LOGISTICS PASSPORT

India joins WLP to boost trade

NEW DELHI: The World Logistics Passport (WLP), a major policy initiative established to increase trading opportunities among emerging markets, announced India, Indonesia and South Africa as members. They join Colombia, Senegal, Kazakhstan, Brazil, Uruguay and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in a club of trading nations sharing expertise to smooth trade

flows around the world.

The WLP creates opportunities for business across Africa, Asia, Central and South America to improve existing trading routes and develop new ones through the world's first logistics loyalty programme for freight forwarders and traders. It overcomes non-tariff trade barriers by fast-tracking cargo movement, reducing

administrative costs, advancing cargo information and facilitating movement between ports and air.

The WLP now counts Mumbai international airport (Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport) and Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal in Mumbai besides Emirates SkyCargo in India and Nepal as partners. -ANI

FORECAST

Global bank credit losses for banks may total \$1.8 trillion

SINGAPORE: S&P Global Ratings lowered its forecast of credit losses for banks globally at \$1.8 trillion in 2020 and 2021, down 15 per cent from its previous estimate of \$2.1 trillion in July 2020.

"We expect that final 2020 data will show credit losses of close to \$900 billion, a third lower than our previous forecast. And we now forecast a similar level of credit losses in 2021 at around \$910 billion - a rise of 10 per cent from our previous forecast," said S&P Global Ratings' credit analyst Osman Sattar.

"For 2022, we forecast credit losses will decrease slightly to around \$870 billion, still well above recent pre-pandemic levels. Indeed, we expect that 2019 marked the end of a multi-year period of benign credit losses for banks globally even as economies continue to recover from the pandemic," he said.

Sattar said the revised forecasts also reflect a shift in the timing of these losses which could be spread more evenly across the forecast period. This change reflects the ongoing pandemic as well as ongoing debt moratoria and fiscal support in many cases. -ANI

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Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-

Fully Furnished Apartment And Transport For Office Also Available

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Flat for sale only 3 years old
2 bed room + 1 study room,
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1000 SQM in Al Ansab, Bousher & Misfah.
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Al Wattayah Main Road
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Starting Price @ OMR 3.5/sqm

TEL. 99382489, 99263443

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Super Deluxe 1, 2 & 3 BHK Flats with Ducted VRF A/Cs. Free centralize gas, Built in wardrobes, Kitchen appliances, 24x7 CCTV, Security access system, Free Unlimited High Speed Fiber Optic WiFi & Secured car park.

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Fully Furnished Apartment and Transport for Office also available

Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

LAND FOR SALE AL AZAIBA

PRICE: RO.300 THOUSAND NEGOTIABLE

CONTACT 92042451

FOR RENT

Trailer for rent. Contact 95292064

Flat for rent, 4 rooms Ruwi near Badr al sama with AC. One room in wadi Adi with AC. Contact 99345137

For rent flats in Darsait. Contact 93639986, 99885957

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

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

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

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

Brand new two bedroom at Marsa Garden Al Mouj, Full equipped kitchen and built in cupboards and two bathrooms for OMR 600 kindly contact +968-93326511

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Please send your CV within 7 days to salesengineeroman@gmail.com

Senior INVESTING Partners Wanted

Business and Project Consulting company (Excellent Grade) with nice office in MBD wants Senior Partners in:

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Only experienced professionals with 5-15 years local/GCC experience may send CV with a cover letter to: jvoman2020@yahoo.com

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FOR REPUTED MEDICAL CENTRE IN MUSCAT

1) GYNECOLOGIST- WITH DGO/MD

2) PEDIATRICIAN

3) SPECIALIST ORTHOPEDIC – DIPLOMA/MS

4) PHYSIOTHERAPIST – BPT/MPT

5) LABORATORY TECHNICIAN – (LOCUM BASIS WITH NOC)

Preference will be given to candidates with MOH LICENSE, NOC /Cleared Prometric and completed Data Flow verification.

Email on: info@wmc.om

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Urgently required
Experienced Estimator
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Contact 79947844.
Email drsubualath@yahoo.co.in

Urgently required pathologist/ microbiologist with PHD, GP doctors, nurses, x-ray technicians, Arab speaking gynecologist, pediatrician, dentist & orthodontist for Salalah Oman. MOH license holders are preferred.
Whatsapp no: +968 98899345.
Email hrsalalah2021@gmail.com

A Staff nurse with MOH licence or with prometric 60% is required for a Clinic in Muscat Area Contact 91465358. Send your CV: ranjithbarua63@yahoo.com

SALES/MARKETING

Urgent requirement 5 gallon drinking water's salesman.
Email kamrulhassanbd4@gmail.com
Contact 98512984

Urgent Required Outdoor Sales Manager for Optics & Contact lenses with Oman experience & driving licenses. Contact 95766844

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Tamil Nadu based Mudaliyar/inter caste girl 23/163 star poosam BE CSC,in India a suitable proposal invited. Contact 00968-93595292 0091-9176690382

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anoopkrishna1978@gmail.com

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BUSINESS

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

JOB VACANCIES

ACCOUNTS

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

ENGINEER

Seeking for a Biomedical engineer (Female), 2-3 yrs of experience in Oman with administration & sales experience with good English communication skill. Interested candidate should send their CV to the Email: jobvacancy.hr22@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION

Seeking for a Admin with accounting experience of 5 yrs or more in Oman with good English communication skill.interested candidate should send their CV to the email jobvacancy.hr22@gmail.com

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

HSE Officer, diploma in HSE, IOSH Management safely, NEBOSH or OSHA minimum 3 yrs'experience in HSE. Email: imad.sadia@aljoood-oman.com
Contact 95337785

DOMESTIC HELP

Required Indian national houseboy with speaking knowledge of English & Arabic for Omani House. Contact 99420752

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

MANAGER

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking for a gardener knows skill of propagating plants, pruning& training. Experience in green house is must working with plants,vegetables & flowers. Basically junior horticulturist. Contact 99466062

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

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ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male 18 yrs Oman accounting exp SAP, tally, excel upto finalisation seeks suitable placement, NOC, D/L available. Contact 97887472, 71206125

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

Indian Female 21 years, BA (Hons) Finance, 2 yrs exp in Accounts/Admin. Looking for suitable opportunities. Oman D/L Available.# 99862550 najlanishad1999@gmail.com

Young Indian Male with D/L, having 18 years Oman experience in Accounts/ Sales / Marketing, ready to join immediately - release letter available. Contact 95167629 / 99073704

Indian with 5 yrs experience in Acc & sale with valid DL,looking for suitable job. Contact 92531339

Indian male 30, B.Com,6 yrs experience in Accounts,sales & medical insurance sector in Oman.NOC available. Contact 98908761. Email ajmalhamza90@gmail.com

Indian male 26 yrs old,5 yrs experience in Accounts,looking for job.NOC available. Contact 79081319. email remeshmattakkara@gmail.com

Sudanese Accountant 3 years experience MBA holder 94706138

Indian male, MPA with +15 years of experience in accounts and finance (Oman, UAE & India) as Accounts Manager / chief & senior accountant on visit with NOC. Contact 79007124 / 78039524 Email: kadercok@outlook.com

ADMIN/HR

Indian female looking for office assistant or accountant job 79826286

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Hr & admin seek placement for Hr/admin executive/assistant - Contact 95425764

Indian male 23 yrs old, Bachelor of Business Administration(BBA) seeking a suitable placement. Contact 79752885

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

Filipino, female with 7 years experience in airline industry as cabin crew. Looking for admin, office, Hr job. With Oman DL. Contact 79470206

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Looking for driving job. 9 yrs. Contact 93191575

Looking for Driver job. Contact 98934398

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Looking for Driving job. 93985092

Driver with 6 yrs experience in Oman Muscat looking job. #91728931

Looking for Driver job. # 94531676

15 yrs experience in driving, looking job. # 97984912, 94242480

Driver job wanted. Contact 99797810, 97612115

CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Indian female (M.Sc. chemistry),
2 years experience as a quality control officer seeking a suitable opportunity in any chemical industry/food industry /lab assistant.
Contact +968 71548622
cleetadsu7259@gmail.com

Indian male chief accountant 21yrs experience in financial accounting, budgeting and finalisation. Oman D/L familiar with Sap, customised ERP and Tally. On visit
Contact 78073734
Email sajeevsmi2005@gmail.com

Sales Manager
With BA Degree and above 5 years of experience in Oman Market looking for suitable opportunity.
GSM: 71744819
Email: mehdikassen@yahoo.co

Project Director / Senior Project Manager / Contracts Administrator
Indian National having 18 years of work experience, 14 years in Oman having master's in Construction Project Management & Construction Law & Dispute Resolution from UK Universities. Experienced in Handling High End Hospitality, Residential & Commercial Projects from initiation till completion. Seeks Placement as Clients or Consultants representative in Oman.
Please contact – 78022980

Indian male B Com, ICWA intermediate with 20 years of Oman middle management experience in handling MIS, project finance management, managing banks, budgeting, forecasting, finalization of accounts and year end audits, seeks proper placement. NOC / DL available.
Please contact 94839479,
sureshswaminathan2311@gmail.com

FINANCE
Indian Male 32yrs (CMA, MBA-Fin.) with 10 Yrs (8yrs in GCC Manufacturing & SAOG) experience currently working as Asst. Finance Manager expertise in MIS reporting, Accounting upto finalization, Budgeting, Financial modeling, Business Analysis, IFRS, ERP & Advance Excel, seeking similar position in the Finance department.
Contact 99250104, Email: hyder065@gmail.com

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

FINANCE / ADMIN
Female with 8 years experience in Admin & Accounts looking for a suitable post.
Telephone: 96303874

FINANCE
Male with 7 years experience in accounts & admin looking for a suitable post.
Telephone: 97711584

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HR Manager
17 years' experience in Finance & HR (10 Yrs), Indian Male, MBA & M.Com. NOC Available.
Contact: 96332608

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Indian Male, 41 Years, B.Com + CA intermediate, having more than 15 Years of experience (13 years in Oman) in the different positions as Accounts Manager, Internal Auditor and statutory auditor, currently working as Accounts Manager, seeking similar Managerial position in finance.
Contact: 99169501

ADMINISTRATION
More than 22 years of experience, Indian, Male, having bachelor's degree seeking suitable placement, having experience in Administration/ Document Control/IT, HR, and Finance Support, with valid Oman Driving Licence. NOC available.
Contact No. 99757759
Email: bijuchacko85@gmail.com

FOOD AND QUALITY
A Post Graduate in Food science and Technology, with certification in Food Safety Level 4 and HACCP Level 3, actively looking for a job in food industry. Ability to handle in-Process quality and Food Technology related activities. Excellent communication and Interpersonal skills.
Contact +968 78359939
Mail id: vargheseroy98@gmail.com

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

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

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

Indian female B Com graduate having 7 years' experience as Accountant in Oman (Tally ERP 9). Seeking suitable placement in Accounts/ Admin.
Contact: 92999419
d.kaiyarla1986@gmail.com

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

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

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT
Srilankan Senior Accountant looking for a suitable opportunity. 7 years experience in Oman & capable of handling accounts up to finalization. On hand experience in Tally, Spur, QB etc. Having D/L.
CONTACT: 92821932

PLANNING ENGINEER/MANAGER
Planning Engineer/manager 20 yrs experience in Mechanical, civil, pipeline 7 MEP projects using Primavera with NOC & D/L seeks suitable position.
Contact 92651105
Email rejil_mathai@hotmail.com

OMANI HR/PRO
Omani, 15 yrs experience, PRO, Relation development, Labour & Crime law, HR & Time Management. Fluent in English, Arabic & Hindi seeks Part Time job.
Contact 97264447

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

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11+ years of experience in Oman. Experience in Commercial Building Projects Management & Engineering consultancy. Looking for full time suitable position. Having Oman DL. Contact 98611382

M/48/Indian Civil engineer, 28 yrs exp, 18 yrs Oman exp with Consultants & Clients seeks opportunities.
Contact 92370274

B.E Mechanical Engineer 27 years old indian male 5 years experience Including 2 years in Oman looking for suitable opportunity. currently working in Oman. Contact 79332156

Mechanical Engineer, Indian, having 5+ years Oman experience in procurement and Production field. Have worked with reputed Companies and Government firms . Also have Oman D/License and good knowledge in Autocad, CATIA. Seeking suitable job. Can join immediately. NOC available. Contact 92138450
Whatsapp : +919544074049

15 yrs exp Dip.civil with DL seeking suitable placement as project maintenance coordinator. Contact 96534073

Electrical Engineer with 4 years experience in Africa and Oman , LV system , TX maintenance , water transmission line , motors control , with valid visa and driving license, Contact : 91936392

Indian BE Civil engineer 10 yrs experience in building Construction, Oil & gas field in Oman having valid D/L. Immediately join. Contact 96455880

BSc.Civil Engineer PMP Certified with 12 years experience in construction and road works. Contact

Indian 28/Male Diploma Electrical Engineer, 4.5 yrs. Exp. (2 yrs. (Exp.) in Dubai) as an Electrician. Seek job
Contact no 79572738.
99715328)

B.E Mechanical with 16 years of experience in building, Industrial and Infrastructure Projects in Oman, looking for suitable Job Opportunities. Contact: 92330065

QA/QC Civil Engineer, Total 9.7 year experience/Oman & Gcc, on site, O&M, NOC available. # 96421733

BE Civil Engineer 8 to 9yrs experience. Contact 93850875. Email abdulcivico2015@gmail.com

8 Years experienced Electrical Sales and Estimation Engineer with valid driving license available to join immediately. Contact: 79696089. Email xjnirmal@gmail.com.

BE Civil engineer having 13 years oman experience mainly in building construction looking for a suitable position. Contact no: 72132426

Landscaping and Irrigation Engineer with 9+yrs total exp, 6 yrs in oman, looking for suitable job. Contact no. 72100025

Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDO, Diwan, Abu Dhabi, group of companies as GM. Contact/ Whatsapp 94174443

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

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

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (SRI LANKAN)
MBA, B.Sc and CA (Intermediate) with 18 years of experience (12th year in Oman) in Retail, FMCG, Leasing and Property management sectors. Immediate joining. DL. NOC is available.
M: 9641 6394 / Mail: scms.acct133@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

IT

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

Indian male, B.Sc (Computer science) 6 yrs of Project management (IT) with FMCG domain across global markets, experience in managing end to end project activities. Contact 98781017

MEDICAL

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Plumbing, painting maintenance works. Contact 96191837, 98937266

Driver plumber Electrician, looking for job. Contact 96750080

MECHANIC/TECHNIC

HSE Professional, Indian national, Graduate with 23+ years of experience having GradIOSH and IDipNEBOSH certifications seeking suitable placements. Working in Oman since 2012. Ready to join at short notice. Contact: 92604510, hseoman101@gmail.com

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

MANAGER

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

Male having 10 years Experience (Oman), working as a "Fleet Manager" looking for a suitable position. Contact +96893363316

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Sri Lanka male in Oman seeking a job as procurement, store manager & operation, Degree SCM -ERP, with NOC, Tele 98878815

Supply chain, procurement office, Oil & gas, fabrication sectors. Having 13 yrs experience in oman. Looking for good opportunities. Indian male. Contact 79868872

Indian Female worked with Oil and Gas Operator in Oman for 12 years is seeking for a suitable job. Can join immediately. Contact 99841165.

Indian male 12 years experience in purchase store management and Inventory looking for suitable job with NOC, Oman DL Gsm 97099785. Email rajakmani66@gmail.com

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JOB WANTED

SALES / MARKETING

13 years exp in sales, marketing and distribution management. Indian male, MBA, DL. Contact 78097687

Indian with 16years experience in sales and marketing with valid Oman DL, looking for opportunities
Contact 79685337

Indian male 27 yrs MBA graduate with specialized degree in Management seeking suitable placement. valid Oman DL available. Contact 91209360. Email amirasadc@gmail.com

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

Indian male with Oman D/L, looking for job in Sales. Having experience in sales in a very well reputed FMCG company in Oman. Contact 90625165. Email id: farookshamas@gmail.com

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

6 years experienced Sales officer looking for the suitable job. Valid, Omani driving license available.
Contact 98424254

Indian male B.com graduate, PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) & Digital Marketing. Valid Oman DL. Looking for suitable placement. 79748272
Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com.

23 Years Graduate in Marketing looking for job in Sales or Marketing having 03 years sales experience. Contact: 9427 1666.

MBA Marketing/HR, 5 years working experience in India. Experience in Sales, Marketing and operations. Contact +96896652549

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ROUND-UP



Malabar Gold launches 'Heart to Heart' collection

HEALTHCARE



Nationals and residents can get drive-through COVID-19 test at Aster Al Raffah Hospital

MUSCAT: With the help of DG-PHE, Muscat new drive-through RTPCR sample collecting facility launched at the parking lot of Aster Al Raffah Hospital Al Ghubra, where people can get tested for COVID-19 for OMR19 at the ease of their cars instead of going to a hospital or clinics.

The drive-thru testing facility is located at the heart of Muscat city with easy access from all over.

While much is still unknown about COVID-19, one thing is certain — it is highly contagious. Patients, who do not have COV-

ID-19, may be exposed to it while they are waiting for a test at a hospital or clinic.

Drive through the testing site is behind the main building of Aster Al Raffah Hospital Al Ghubra and follow the lane directions to wait for your turn. Stay inside your vehicle and keep your car windows up unless otherwise instructed.

When it is your turn, after the registration a medical worker will take your sample through the open car window. Either you will be notified through an SMS or you can come down to the hospital to collect the report.

‘Heart to Heart’
jewellery collection
showcases exclusive
heart-shaped
jewellery that
will cater to the
increasing demand
for such jewellery
during this season
of love

MUSCAT: Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one among the largest jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 250 outlets spread across 10 countries has launched a special collection of diamond and 18K gold jewellery named 'Heart to Heart' to celebrate the season of love.

'Heart to Heart' jewellery collection showcases exclusive heart-shaped jewellery that will cater to the increasing demand for such jewellery during this period.

This unique jewellery collection is a perfect gift to express true emotions to loved ones. With prices starting from just OMR85, there is something to fit everyone's budget.

Apart from pendants in diamonds and 18k, customers can also choose heart-shaped beautifully crafted bangles, bracelets and rings to gift their loved ones. Additionally, the brand has also launched a few other special products including 3-in-1 diamond pendant and ring which can be used in three different ways.

Customers can also opt for personalised name rings in 18K, which can be specifically curated for loved ones in their name. This offer will be available across all outlets of Malabar Gold & Diamonds until February 14. Custom-

ers also have the opportunity to buy this unique collection online.

"It is the season of love and hence the season of gifting too. Jewellery is the most thoughtful gift that can be given to your loved ones, as its value appreciates each day. The charm of jewellery lasts for a lifetime as it reminds the person of your love each time they wear it. We believe that Heart to Heart, our exclusive range of jewellery launched specifically for this season will be the perfect gift for your loved ones," said Shamla Ahamed, Managing Director - International Operations, Malabar

Gold & Diamonds.

Apart from these, Malabar Gold & Diamonds also showcases an incredible collection of unique designs in gold and diamond jewelry to suit the tastes and budget of its different customers.

Customers can also choose gifts for their loved ones from their branded jewellery segment that includes Solitaire One – an exclusive collection of Solitaires, Era – Uncut Diamond Jewellery, Ethnix – Handcrafted Designer Jewellery, Mine – Diamonds Unlimited, Precia – Gem Jewellery and Divine – Indian Heritage Jewellery.

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ROUND-UP



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Experience pioneering luxury with Lexus RX

The Lexus RX makes every drive power-packed with its choice of two powertrains

MUSCAT: The Lexus RX set a benchmark in the luxury SUV category with its impressive luxury and pioneering technology. Designed to stand out from the regular, the RX makes a strong mark on every arrival.

The Lexus RX makes every drive power-packed with its choice of two powertrains. The RX 350 model comes with a 3.5-litre V6 petrol engine, which produces 296 HP and 37.7 Kg.m of torque and is paired to an eight-speed automatic transmission. Meanwhile, the RX 450h hybrid variant is equipped with a 3.5-litre V6 petrol engine and two electric motors and produces a combined system output of 308 hp. The class-leading hybrid electric model enables customers to contribute to a sustainable future while enjoying increased driving satisfaction and acceleration smoothness, particularly when starting. The RX Hybrid is available with a hybrid battery warranty of 8 years or 1,600,000 km, whichever is earlier.

The Lexus RX 450h can be driven in EV drive mode to reduce noise while driving in residential areas and to reduce exhaust gas in indoor parking lots and garages or through a combination of its petrol engine and two electric motors, depending on the vehicle's speed and customer's driving behaviour. The batteries in the hybrid electric drivetrain are automatically



charged by either the petrol engine or when braking and decelerating, eliminating the need to plug in a power cord.

A host of advanced technologies ensure the RX 450h drives like any other conventional vehicle, while not requiring special fuel.

The Lexus RX is available in 5 & 7-seater configurations. The Lexus RX embraces Lexus' reputation for engaging performance. The engineering team has scrutinized every part of the vehicle and has made significant enhancements to the rigidity of the body and suspension system, as well as shock absorber and brake-control system. The result is a vehicle with outstanding handling, which enables drivers to trace their desired driving line with incredible precision.

The Lexus RX represents a subtle evolution of previous generations' dynamic exterior aesthetic, which begins with an L-patterned grille mesh and a smoother surround that blends more seamlessly into the front bumper. Prominent grille arrangements have been sculpted into the bumper corners, with fog lights residing in the lower part of the front bumper.

Slender headlamps add an extra element of sharpness to the frontal appearance. The rear fog lights have been integrated more effectively into the valance area, and functions of the combination lamps are arranged in a strict horizontal divide, increasing the sense of vehicle width.

Responsiveness is further refined by the Adaptive Variable Suspension, which more precisely manages overall handling, stability, and control, together with the Active Corner Assist, which helps prevent under-steering on turns by applying more braking force to the inner wheel.

The 12.3-inch high-resolution, split-screen Lexus Multimedia System touchscreen positioned closer to the driver, offers control of both audio and climate systems. The touchscreen also includes a rear-view camera to assist the driver in reversing. Furthermore, the Lexus RX's advanced smartphone integration offers access to in-car connected technology applications from Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, together with a designated phone storage area and USB ports to ensure occupants al-

ways remain connected on the go.

Additionally, the Lexus RX adds the convenience of a hands-free power backdoor, which is activated via a foot-operated system that can be used when the user's hands or arms are full, such as when carrying goods. Placing or kicking up a foot toward a sensor beneath the rear bumper cover opens or closes the electrically actuated backdoor.

As with any Lexus vehicle, safety is a top priority for the new RX. Drivers can enjoy complete peace of mind thanks to the Lexus Safety System+, an advanced safety technology package that includes Pre-Collision System, all-speed range Dynamic Radar Cruise Control, Lane Tracing Alert, and Adaptive High-beam System.

The vehicle also includes a comprehensive array of safety features designed to protect its occupants, such as SRS airbags, Vehicle Stability Control, Traction Control, Anti-lock Braking System with Electronic Brakeforce Distribution, Brake Assist, Panoramic View Monitor, Blind Spot Monitor, Parking Support Alert, Rear Cross-Traffic Alert and Hill-start Assist Control, among many others.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH ARM



Oman Avenues Mall launches Tafa'ul

MUSCAT: Continuing its commitment towards community development and empowering individuals for a promising future, Oman Avenues Mall, the most prominent lifestyle & retail destination in the Sultanate, has launched its social responsibility wing, Tafa'ul – a beacon for community engagement.

Aimed at positively touching the lives of the citizens and residents of Oman, Tafa'ul will collaborate with community development and societal wellbeing programs to drive meaningful impact. The mall operator seeks to provide a much-needed platform for showcasing and enhancing Omani citizens and residents in playing the role of an aggregator for standalone community enterprises.

"We are pleased and proud to launch our CSR programme Tafa'ul at Oman Avenues Mall, which strengthens our pioneering role in contributing to social causes, environmental sustainability, empowering Omani talent, promoting awareness about education, and participating in community-oriented initiatives. The community outreach arm will effectively utilize the mall's reach and position to support and contribute to the society, by consolidating efforts of various individuals and philanthropic entities," Ananth AV – Director – Oman, India, Malaysia and Indonesia for Lulu Group International said on the occasion of launching Tafa'ul.

Five key initiatives are planned to be implemented as part of Tafa'ul this year. This includes the on-going support programme for Oman Cancer Association executed through Art Beats, which has been undertaken as part of Tafa'ul's debut initiative. Hosted by renowned artist Ibrahim Gailani, Art Beats is dedicated to showcasing art across various media, wherein, Gailani will talk about different forms of art including painting, sculpture, pottery, photography, installation, and more. The programme will also feature artists from Oman through interviews and their works. At the core of Art Beats is a social initiative - Studio.t has collaborated with Oman Cancer Association for a noble cause.

At the end of the first season of Art Beats, Studio.t will host a special art-themed event to support the altruistic work being done by Oman Cancer Association. As part of the initiative, Tafa'ul will acquire an artwork each from all artists featured on Art Beats. These artworks will be collated into a digital portfolio and shared with prospective buyers. All proceeds from the sale of the artworks will be donated to the Oman Cancer Association to support the work done towards cancer awareness.

To further promote the cause, the artworks of the artists will be up for sale at a special showcase at Oman Avenues Mall as a run-up to the art event.

DIGITAL BANKING SERVICES

Bank Muscat signs agreements with several higher education institutions

MUSCAT: In line with its pioneering role in providing state-of-the-art banking services and solutions to the government and private sectors and to comply with the mandate issued by the Central Bank of Oman in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labour for secure salary and bulk payments processing, Bank Muscat has signed agreements with a number of higher educational institutions in the Sultanate.

The agreements with the Sultan Qaboos University, the University of Technology and Applied Sciences, College of Sharia Sciences and the College of Banking and Financial Studies will provide them access to the bank's digital banking services. This will allow these institutions to easily make and approve online transactions, thereby saving the time and effort of their employees and increasing operational efficiencies.

This move to digitalisation is in line with the goals of Oman Vision 2040 including the building of a diversified, dynamic, globally interactive and competitive economy that meets the present and future needs of the locals, in which the private sector has a prominent role. The digitalisation of banking services and solutions will help all sectors of the economy to be highly competitive and ensure contin-



ued economic growth in the next phase of Oman's Renaissance.

Speaking on the occasion, Tariq Atiq, Deputy General Manager, Transaction and Public Sector Banking, Bank Muscat, said, "We are pleased to strengthen our partnership with leading educational institutions across the Sultanate and link them to the state-of-the-art digital banking system offered by the bank.

"We hope that this partnership will raise streamline business transactions and raise the operational efficiencies of these institutions. We thank all our partners for their confidence in the bank's services and facilities and recommend that they start using secure methods like the Corporate Inter-

net Banking platform for transferring salaries and making all recurring payments ahead of the extended February 28 deadline for banks to stop accepting insecure payment methods."

On his part, Mohammed bin Ali Al Nahawi, Director, Financial Affairs Department, Sultan Qaboos University, said that the agreement would further strengthen existing relations with Bank Muscat and enable prompt and quick processing of financial transactions. He expressed his happiness in getting access to various cutting-edge digital banking facilities provided by the bank.

Dr Ali Saif Al Harthy, Dean of the Higher College of Technology at the University of Technology and Applied Sciences said, "We are pleased to announce this agreement with the leading bank in the Sultanate to strengthen our existing partnership. The Higher College of Technology - the University of Technology and Applied Sciences will greatly benefit from this digital banking system, which will simplify salary transfer procedures and improve the quality of service and raise the efficiency of our employees in conducting different transactions."

Dr Abdullah bin Muslim Al-Hashmi, Dean, College of Sharia Sciences, said, "In line with the government's vision of digitally

transforming Oman through digital transactions, the College of Sharia Sciences has joined Bank Muscat's e-payments system. The bank provided excellent support in launching the system and explaining its features. One of the main advantages is the speed of transactions and a reduction in human and financial costs associated with these transactions."

Anis bin Moosa Al Lawati, Acting Dean, College of Banking and Financial Studies, said that this agreement would enhance the existing cooperation between the college and the bank, and improve the services provided to its customers. He added that the online payments system provided by Bank Muscat will lead to further evolution in the level of electronic services in the country. He conveyed his appreciation to Bank Muscat for helping college employees complete their work faster and with the highest standards of quality and transparency.

A large number of agreements have been signed by the bank with organisations of all sizes for provision of digital banking services. It is particularly important to note that from being just a theoretical case, innovation in digital banking is now bringing practical efficiency in the processes, operations and workflow of institutions across Oman.

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