

**PANEL EVALUATING ENTRIES FOR
BILARAB BIN HAITHAM AWARD**

The Arbitration Committee of Bilarab Bin Haitham Award for Architectural Design is sorting and evaluating the inputs from participants for the first edition of the award in 2022. The term of submission of inputs by the participants ended on 5 February. **>A5**

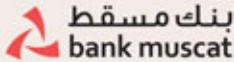


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**Al Bashayer camel festival
being held on the Royal
Directives: Sayyid Asa'ad**

A4

OMAN'S REVENUES JUMP BY 22.6%

Gross Domestic
Product rises 12.7
percent to OMR24.2
billion, from OMR21.5
billion



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Public revenues earned by the Sultanate of Oman increased by 22.6 percent to reach OMR7.4 billion from OMR6 billion, during the 12 months from the third quarter of 2020 to the third quarter of 2021. Data released by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) showed that during this period, public expenditure shrank by 0.7 percent to reach OMR8.4bn. Furthermore, the figures showed that the state budget recorded a deficit of OMR1bn, which amounted to 4.2 percent of GDP at current prices.

Oman's GDP rises
The value of Oman's GDP rose 12.7 percent to reach OMR24.2bn, up from OMR21.5bn during the 12-month period. This was

largely due to a jump in oil prices, which rose from \$47.2 to \$60.9 per barrel.

As a consequence, the added value of oil activities increased by OMR1.5 billion to reach OMR7.4 billion by the end of the third quarter of 2021. Crude oil values also increased by 33.2 percent to touch OMR6.3 billion. However, the value of natural gas decreased by 1.9 percent.

An increase in non-oil activity was also recorded: The total value of non-oil activities rose by 7.8 percent to reach OMR17.7bn. The value of industrial activities rose 9.1 percent, owing to a 25.8 percent increase in the value of manufacturing industries (25.8 percent), mining and quarrying (6.2 percent) and electricity, water and sanitation activities (six percent). Increases were also seen in the service sector (7.5 per-

cent) and agriculture and fisheries (4.8 percent).

Oman also recorded a surplus when it came to foreign trade balance, jumping by OMR410.7mn to reach OMR 3.2bn, owing to a large increase of 41.4 percent in the value of merchandise exports. Oman sold about OMR12.2bn worth of merchandise by the third quarter of 2021, as opposed to OMR 8.6bn at the end of the third quarter of 2020. Merchandise imports also rose by 54.3 percent to reach OMR 9bn.

Re-export figures were also on the up, amounting to OMR1bn, following an 11.6 percent increase.

Remarkably, the exports of plastics, rubber and allied products skyrocketed a whopping 382 percent to become the non-oil product that saw the highest increase in exports during the above time frame. **>A2**

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TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Expat population on the rise since October

1 The Sultanate's expatriate population has been on the rise since October last year, according to the latest demographic data available from the official data-keeper National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI). **>A3**

WORLD US embassy in Kyiv to keep skeletal staff

2 The US on Saturday urged its non-emergency staff to leave its Embassy in Kyiv on the basis of Western intelligence officials warning that a Russian invasion of Ukraine is increasingly imminent. **>A6**

MARKET Port of Duqm crane project 60% complete

3 60 per cent of the supply and installation project of container cranes and bridge cranes for the commercial berth at the Port of Duqm has been completed, according to Opaz. **>B1**

TOWERING FIRE

10 injured, 150 evacuated in Ruwi building blaze



ON THE SPOT

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ten persons were injured and at least 150 evacuated when a massive blaze broke out at the Dhofar Building in Ruwi.

The fire began around 6:10 on Friday evening. Firefighting services from the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority quickly scrambled to the location, getting there in about 10 minutes after the blaze began. The cause of the fire is being investigated. "We saw the fire engines and

water tankers drive past our store," said an employee at a computer store a few minutes away from the building. "On seeing the firefighters, we could only hope no one was seriously harmed."

"By the time they arrived, many of us knew the fire was spreading quickly, so we all began evacuating our shops, and those who lived in the building were also told to leave their homes," said a shopkeeper at Dhofar Building. "However, there were some people who could not leave, because the fire had blocked their escape. "They were told by the au-

thorities to move to the left side of the building, which had been spared by the fire, others went to the roof," he added.

"There are about 60 to 70 of us shopkeepers manning about 30 stores, and at least 100 people living in the building.

"Fortunately, the left side of the building was initially not affected by the fire, so there was some way to rescue those who had been stranded," he said. "The direction of the wind also meant the fire spread to the right side. That side of the building has been burned quite badly." **>A5**

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY IN SRI LANKA DEVELOPMENT BONDS (SLDBs) FOR ELIGIBLE INVESTORS



Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka Issuance of Sri Lanka Development Bonds

(Treasury Bonds Denominated in US Dollars)

Public Debt Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka

Investment and Settlement: Open since 25 January 2022, and will be kept open until further notice.

Currency	: US Dollar
Tenure and Interest Rate	: Please see table below
Interest Payments	: Semi - annual
Investment Amount	: Minimum of US Dollars 1,000 and multiples of US Dollars 1,000 there onwards
Tax	: No withholding tax for investments in SLDBs
Issuing Office	: Public Debt Department, Central Bank of Sri Lanka
Designated Agents to Purchase Bonds	: Selected Licensed Commercial Banks and Primary Dealers

Duly filled applications could be submitted through a Designated Agent (DA) or directly by investors to fpodd@cbsl.lk. In the event of direct submission by investors, the application would be directed to the DA preferred by the investor for investment arrangements.

Promotion and/ or handling fees of 50 basis points on the investment amount brought in will be provided as incentives to DAs in Sri Lankan Rupees, which fee may be shared by DAs with arrangers' of investments.

¹ Any entity or individual who brings in investment in SLDBs.

Available SLDB Maturities and Applicable Fixed Rates for Investment²

Remaining Maturity as at 25 January 2022	Applicable Fixed Rate (Per cent per annum)	Remaining Maturity as at 25 January 2022	Applicable Fixed Rate (Per cent per annum)	Remaining Maturity as at 25 January 2022	Applicable Fixed Rate (Per cent per annum)
6-month	7.50	2-year	7.90	4-year	7.95
10-month	7.65	2-year 3-month	7.90	4-year 6-month	7.95
1-year	7.80	3-year	7.90	4-year 11-month	7.95
1-year 3-month	7.85				

² Remain unchanged until the opening of the next SLDB auction. More details are available in the Offer Information document accessible via the above link.

LIST OF DESIGNATED AGENTS

Acuity Securities Ltd, Tel: +94112206297 | **Bank of Ceylon,** Tel: +94112448830 | **Capital Alliance Ltd,** Tel: +94112317777 | **Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC,** Tel: +94112330406 | **Deutsche Bank AG Colombo Branch,** Tel: +94112447062 | **DFCC Bank PLC,** Tel: +94112442442 | **First Capital Treasuries PLC,** Tel: +94112639898 | **Habib Bank Ltd,** Tel: +94112370390 | **Hatton National Bank PLC,** Tel: +94112664664 | **Indian Bank,** Tel: +94112447163 | **Indian Overseas Bank,** Tel: +94115324422 | **MCB Bank Ltd,** Tel: +94112448765 | **National Development Bank PLC,** Tel: +94112448448 | **Nations Trust Bank PLC,** Tel: +94114711411 | **NSB Fund Management Company Ltd,** Tel: +94112425010 | **Pan Asia Banking Corporation PLC,** Tel: +94114667702 | **People's Bank,** Tel: +94112206783 | **Public Bank Berhad,** Tel: +94112576289 | **Sampath Bank PLC,** Tel: +94112305841-2 | **Seylan Bank PLC,** Tel: +94112456337 | **Union Bank of Colombo PLC,** Tel: +94112374100 | **Wealth Trust Securities Ltd,** Tel: +94112675091-4.

Eligible investors include mainly the foreign nationals/ institutes and Sri Lankans working abroad. Further details can be accessed through the following QR code



Further offer information and application forms in three languages could be accessed through the given link or QR code.
https://www.cbsl.gov.lk/sites/default/files/cbslweb_documents/about/sldb_direct_window_offer_information_e.pdf

Note: The necessary instructions regarding the acquisition of the SLDBs have been issued to all banks by the Central Bank. The details of the offer are available in the Document of Offer dated 25 January 2022.



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PRAYER TIMINGS



Dhuhr	12:26pm
Asr	3:41pm
Maghrib	6:06pm
Isha	7:17pm
Fajr (Tomorrow)	5:24am

JA'ALAN BANI BU ALI

Wastewater treatment plant's expansion

JA'ALAN BANI BU ALI: Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company has started the trial operation of the wastewater treatment plant's expansion

in the Wilayat of Ja'alan Bani Bu Ali in the Governorate of South A'Sharqiyah, with an additional capacity of 100 percent. Eng. Abdullah Mohammad Al

Nuaimi, Director General of Operation said that the production capacity of the plant after the expansion is 1,200 cubic metres per day.

-ONA

MARITIME SECURITY



Pakistan navy vessel visits Port Sultan Qaboos in Muscat

Times News Service

Muscat: In pursuance of Pakistan Navy's commitment to regional security and affirmation of its role as a force with global outlook, Pakistan Navy Ship Aslat (with embarked helicopter) visited Port Sultan Qaboos, Muscat from February 9 to 12, 2022.

This was part of a goodwill visit during its Regional Maritime Security Patrol (RMSP) which is Pakistan Navy's initiative of maintaining presence in the critical sea lanes in order to contribute to regional maritime security and

freedom of navigation.

Reception hosted

During the stay at port, the ship hosted a reception onboard (while abiding by the standard operating procedures (SOPs) and instructions issued by Supreme Committee dealing with COVID-19) which was attended by diplomats including ambassadors and military attaches of various countries, senior officers from Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) and prominent Pakistani community members.

Officers and men from Royal Navy of Oman visited the ship for

professional briefings and interaction.

The ship's visit was aimed at strengthening the bonds of friendship between Sultanate of Oman and Pakistan in general and Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) and Pakistan Navy in particular as well as exploring new vistas for future collaborative initiatives between the two brotherly countries.

The ship sailed onwards on February 12 to take part in the sea phase of the International Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMX 22) conducted off Muscat.

ECONOMY

< FROM A1 Non-oil export values up 94%

Non-oil export values rose 94 percent, while oil exports jumped 31.6 percent in value.

Oman also increased its mineral imports by 263 percent, with 63.2 percent of all merchandise imports coming into the country through seaports.

Money supply

Looking at monetary indicators, Oman's total domestic liquidity rose 3.5 percent to register a total of OMR20bn, while money supply rose by 0.5 percent to rise to OMR5.74bn. The total value of private sector deposits rose to OMR17.2bn, a 5.1 percent increase from the OMR16.4bn at

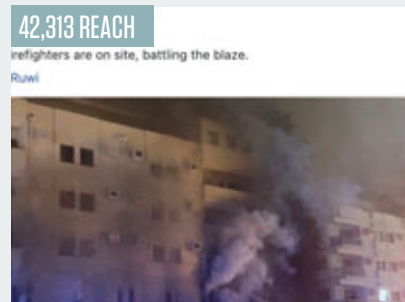
the end of the third quarter of 2020. The purchasing power of the Omani Rial also rose by about one percent to touch 105 points.

The total value of loans and financing granted through commercial banks and Islamic financing increased 4.9 percent to reach OMR27.7bn, compared to OMR26.4bn. Personal loans also increased 2.1 percent to reach OMR8.7bn, while the average interest rates dipped 0.1 percent to reach 5.5 percent.

The total value of foreign assets of the Central Bank of Oman increased by 8.5 percent, compared to the end of the third quarter of 2020.

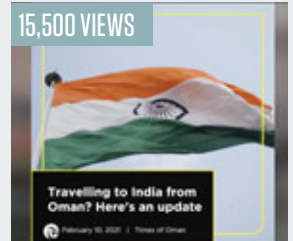
Trending ON SOCIAL MEDIA

📖 MOST READ ON FACEBOOK



A story on the fire in Ruwi reached 42,313 people and had 6,899 engagements on Facebook.

📺 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK



The Maghrib Minute video had 15,500 views and reached 55,700 people on Facebook.

📷 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM



The Maghrib Minute video had 3,111 views and 208 likes on Instagram.

تهنئة

CONGRATULATION

The Oman Company for the Development of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm SAOC (Tatweer) would like to Congratulate:

The Port of Duqm Company SAOC

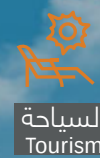
for the successful inauguration of the Port of Duqm

We wish you a greater success in your future operations of the port.

Tatweer is the investment arm of the Public Authority of Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD).

We Enable, Attract and Facilitate Investments in Special Economic Zone at Duqm through Minority Co-investment.

Potential investment sectors in Duqm are:



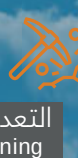
السياحة
Tourism



البتروكيماوية
Petrochemical



الثروة السمكية
Fisheries



التعدين
Mining



التطوير العقاري
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الخدمات اللوجستية
Logistics

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NCSI DATA

Sultanate’s expat numbers on the rise since October

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman’s expatriate population has been on the rise since October 2021, according to figures available from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

The NCSI population clock shows that on 1 October, 2021, there were 1,634,357 expatriates in Oman, having declined from 1.64 million in September and 1.68 in August of last year.

Since October, however, the nation’s expatriate population has been steadily rising. The expat population rose from 1.63 million in October to 1,657,055 in November of 2021 and then climbed to 1,688,461 in December last year.

At the start of the New Year, Oman’s expatriate population figures crossed the 1.7 million mark to reach 1,729,965, before rising to 1,753,264 on 1 February.

During the period from 1 October 2021, the country’s total population rose from 4,419,156 people to 4,562,995. The Omani population also increased from 2,784,799 to 2,809,731.

According to the NCSI’s Monthly Statistical Bulletin for January 2022, there were 1.131 million expatriates employed in the country’s private sector in De-



EXPAT SPREAD: A majority of expatriates in Oman live in Muscat, followed by North Al Batinah, Dhofar, South Al Batinah and Ad Dakhiliyah.

cember 2021, up from 1.108 million in November.

However, the number of expatriates employed in government dipped by 10 percent, from 38,073 public sector employees in November 2021, to 37,996 in December. In total, there are some 1.38 million expatriates employed in Oman.

The majority of expatriate employees work in Muscat (579,875), followed by North Al Batinah (193,851) and the south-

ern Dhofar region (159,931). The fewest expat workers are found in Oman’s northern Musandam region (10,200) and Al Wusta (23,343).

Similarly, the majority of expatriates in Oman live in Muscat (758,309), followed by North Al Batinah (231,171), Dhofar (199,867), South Al Batinah (114,290) and Ad Dakhiliyah (113,371). The fewest expatriates are in Musandam (14,963) and Al Wusta (27,416).

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- *Charming room decoration.

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MUSCAT

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TENDER
NOTICE



The Internal Tender Committee of Emdad Logistics Company SAOC., hereby announces the following Tenders:

Tender No.	Description	Last Date of receiving Specifications	Date of Bid Submission	Suppliers	Tender Fee OMR	Place of Submission
ITC/T/001/2022	Supply of Mobile Urban Facility "Relocatable Habitat Units" (Purchase of 64 Units)	20 th Feb 2022	06 th Mar 2022	Only Specialized Companies	1000.00/- OMR Non Refundable	Emdad Logistics Company, 3rd floor
ITC/T/002/2022	Supply of Modified Shipping Containers Urban Complex -35 units of 20ft Containers -31 units of 40ft Containers (Purchase)	20 th Feb 2022	06 th Mar 2022	Only Specialized Companies	175.00/- OMR Non Refundable	Emdad Logistics 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 – 17:00 (Sunday – Thursday).

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Branch	Al Khoudh Branch
Bank ID Code	BSHROMRXXX

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 or any other offer without any justifiable reasons.

* The company reserve the right to issue the order either in part or full for the quoted items without any justifiable reasons.

*The company reserve the right to reject the tenders not complying with the tender documentation requirement.

For any clarification, please contact us through tenders@portofduqm.om

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Call for papers

Submission Deadline: **Feb 21, 2022**

ORGANIZED BY

MODERN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & SCIENCE, MUSCAT, OMAN
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ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND SUSTAINABILITY AIM:
The conference is inspired from the economic and sustainability critical challenges facing the world after Covid pandemic, and therefore the aim of the conference is to share the information and knowledge related to economic transformation and sustainability and various emerging businesses to support world economic growth in a global context.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ARE AS FOLLOWS:
1. To initiate a dialogue and discussion on sustainability and development.
2. To explore and explore opportunities to combat the emerging challenges on sustainability and economic front.
3. To develop a culture of research and dialogue among the Omani population by attracting global researchers.
4. To deliberate on emerging business trends and ideas.

BENEFITS:
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➤ Opportunity to Publish

TOPICS:
With an exciting theme (Economic Development, Sustainability and Emerging Businesses) and clearly defined objectives for the upcoming 1st Economic Transformation and Sustainability international conference, the tentative sub-themes/tracks are but not limited to:

Track 1: Sustainable Economic Development
Track 2: Agriculture, Food Management & its impact on Economy
Track 3: Water Management
Track 4: Entrepreneurial interventions and innovation
Track 5: Emerging Business Practices
Track 6: Digital transformation in financial services
Track 7: Digital Media and Communication

IMPORTANT DEADLINES
■ Full Paper Submission: **Feb 21, 2022**
■ Paper Acceptance Notification: **Mar 07, 2022**
■ Final Paper Submission: **Mar 14, 2022**
■ Conference Presentation: **Mar 28 - Mar 30, 2022**

REGISTRATION FEES
➤ Category 1: USD 55 for all Participants
➤ Category 2: USD 40 for Students, Staff, members from Collaborating Institutions, life members of IEA and OXERT

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
Authors are invited to submit through conference submission system, please check www.etsiconf.com

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IMX22

RNO takes part in maritime exercise

MUSCAT: The Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) started its participation in the International Maritime Exercise (IMX22) in the Omani maritime area (Strait of Hormuz, Sea of Oman and the Arabian Sea).

The Sultanate is hosting the activities of the second part of the IMX22 from 12 to 18 February.

The Sultanate's Marine Security Centre will assume the command and control of IMX22, which will see the participation of a number of vessels of the RNO and naval vessels from friendly countries including the US, the UK, Pakistan and South Korea with air support from the RAFO planes. -ONA

WILAYAT OF ADAM

Al Bashayer Arabian camel racing festival to kick off on February 28

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ADAM: The fifth Annual Edition of the Al Bashayer Arabian Camel Racing Festival will kick off on February 28 in the Wilayat of Adam with the participation of camel owners and breeders from within the Sultanate and the GCC States.

The festival will continue until 5 March.

His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tariq Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs and Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan said: "We celebrate this year, the new edition of Al Bashayer Arabian Camel Racing Festival within the development plan of Al Bashayer racecourse.

"The festival culminates the vision of late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour who worked for the preservation of cultural heritage. It also comes within the Royal Directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on employment of all capabilities for encouragement of youth to safeguard and preserve the Omani values and traditions".

He said that Al Bashayer Arabian Camel Racing Festival has become one of the most important sports, cultural, social and tourism events at the level of the Sultanate and the GCC as it disseminates the spirit of love and brotherhood among camel owners.

The Al Bashayer Arabian Camel Racing Festival is characterised by a high-level of competition among the participants, he added.

The various sectors of society participate in the Al Bashayer Arabian Camel Racing Festival, which provides economic activities to boost development in the region as a whole. The activities are in line with the Oman Vision 2040 aimed at creating a diversified and sustainable economy in the Sultanate, he added.

He said that this edition of the festival has made possible implementation of the plans envisioned in the past for making the festival an icon that sets an example for others.

On the competitions, he said that "every year, we witness tough competitions among the participants in all rounds, during the five days of the festival.

He said that His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has approved allocation of land for a project on the construction of an equestrian racecourse, which would see the light soon. The project would receive our personal care and attention, he added. -ONA

TOUR OF OMAN

Danish cyclist wins third stage

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Anthon Charmig (Uno-X Pro Cycling Team) had set himself the goal of taking his first pro win this season - the 23 year-old Danish talent did it on Saturday, with a dominant performance on the slopes of Quriyat!

His victory ahead of Jan Hirt (Intermarché-Wanty-Gobert Matériaux) and Elie Gesbert (Arkea-Samsic) also makes him the third leader of the race, after Fernando Gaviria (UAE Team Emirates) and Mark Cavendish (Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl Team).

But the gaps remain extremely tight ahead of more climbing challenges on day 4 and the iconic ascent of Jabal Al Akhdhar (Green Mountain) on stage 5.

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FIRST EDITION

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

Panel evaluating entries for Bilarab Bin Haitham Award

MUSCAT: The Arbitration Committee of Bilarab Bin Haitham Award for Architectural Design is sorting and evaluating the inputs from participants for the first edition of the award in 2022. The term of submission of inputs by the participants ended on 5 February.

The total number of inputs submitted by Omani youths was 356. Several entries that did not meet the minimum standards have been excluded.

Currently, the committee is sorting out and technically evaluating the inputs. The front-runners in the current stage will



qualify for the first review which begins on 27 February. Following the review, 10 participants would

be invited to make detailed presentation before the committee and also a detailed discussion on

all technical and engineering aspects of the designs.

The projects submitted for the first edition of the award includes various designs and layouts of architectural landmarks, models and buildings inspired by Omani culture, besides tourism and commercial buildings.

It may be mentioned that the projects for the award this year will serve as necessary input in development of Hay Al Mina area in the Wilayat of Muttrah by construction of a landmark that represents the 50-year Renaissance under the Sultanate.

-ONA



Omani women’s group takes part in Dubai Expo 2020

DUBAI: A group of Omani women specialists, researchers and students participated in the Sultanate’s Pavilion at Expo 2020 in Dubai as part of celebrations of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science, which falls on 11 February every year.

The group visited pavilions of other countries participating in the Expo 2020 and acquainted itself with the achievements of other countries in communications and innovation.

Dr. Sihambint Salim Al Sinani, from Oman Medical Specialty Board said that Omani woman had distinguished themselves in the field of medicine and had several achievements in their name and had also represented the Sultanate in the international arena.

Engineer and researcher Hajirbint Khamis Al Azri said that representation of the Sultanate in the Expo 2020 was a new and enriching experience which afforded an opportunity to get acquainted with prominent personalities in the field of science.

The idea of celebrating this day reflected deep appreciation for the achievements and innovations of women and girls in the field of science.

Dr. Buthaina bint Mahfoudh Al Wahaibi, Head of Research and Development Office at Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company said the event this year had focused on the contributions of women in the field of environment and the challenges faced in the water sector. — ONA

Dhofar Building in Ruwi

< FROM A1 Injured provided medical assistance

Dhofar Building also serves as staff accommodation for the Ruwi branch of a chain of department stores. The top floor of the building alone houses about 80 employees. In the wake of the fire, their company is finding them alternate accommodation.

“Fortunately, there were only

four or five of our colleagues inside the building at the time of the fire, because everyone else was at work,” said an employee of the store.

CDAA emergency services used ladders to rescue those who were still trapped within the building, or on the roof, unhesi-

tatingly putting their lives on the line while braving the roaring flames, thick smoke, and other potential hazards to themselves.

Firefighting teams

“Firefighting teams in Muscat Governorate were able to control a fire that broke out in a building

in the Ruwi area in Wilayat Muttrah, as a result of which 10 people were injured,” said CDAA in a statement. The injuries sustained by people ranged from moderate to light, for which they were provided medical assistance on-site. Two people were transferred to hospital for further treatment.



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT AND
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Sharqiyah Desalination Company SAOG (the "Company"), I am pleased to present the Annual Board of Directors' Report and the Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Operational Highlights

The Sur Independent Water Plant ("the Plant") has increased its production volumes of water with a total water delivery to Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company ("OWWSC"), previously known as Public Authority for Water ("PAW") of 41,195,065 m3 compared to 36,614,033 m3 in the previous year (i.e. an increase of almost 12.51%).

The average scheduled plant availability for the year reached 98.8%. This consistently high availability is the result of a strict maintenance program followed and implemented by the operation & maintenance team, as well as improved coordination with OWWSC. The Company continues to maintain its excellent reputation as a provider of potable water to the Sharqiyah region.

On March 18, 2021, the Plant successfully completed the Annual Performance Test for the contractual year 12 (CY13). The demonstrated water capacity during the test was equal to 5493.225 m3/h (100% of the Guaranteed Water Capacity).

Business Continuity

As the COVID-19 threat unfolded in 2020 and well-into 2021, it has created a challenge for the Company to overcome. While the global crisis caused a status of emergency, the Company continued to find solutions to this new unforeseen obstacle and ensured the safety of its employees as well as the smooth operation of the Plant, and subsequently, the continuous supply of desalinated water to the region as it always has.

Financial information

Revenue has Increased by 2.4% as compared to the previous year (RO 317K). This is mainly due to the increase in annual contractual water capacity charge rate as per the contract signed back in July 2014.

The cost of sales has Increased by 12.3% as compared to the previous year (RO 999K).

The administrative and general expenses have decreased by 10.5% as compared to the previous year (RO 87K). This is mainly due to the reduction in provision for expected credit loss (ECL) on outstanding financial asset receivable from client and year end bank balances as per IFRS 9 reporting standard and the impact is partially offset due to increase in legal and professional fees.

Finance expenses have decreased by 8.1% as compared to the previous year (RO 237K). This is mainly due to the impact of the decrease in outstanding loans payable to lenders.

Current year profit before tax represents 9 % of the revenue.

Current year profit after tax represents 7% of the revenue.

Based on the financial results, the board proposes to the AGM to consider and approve a distribution of cash dividends of 15% of the share capital.

Internal Control and Corporate Governance

The Management of the Company believes in a strong internal control system, overseen by our Internal Auditor in compliance with regulations prescribed by the Capital Market Authority (CMA) and The International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF).

The Company has in place high standards of corporate governance, which are compliant with the Code of Corporate Governance promulgated by the Capital Market Authority.

Acknowledgements

As Chairman of the Board, I would like to thank our shareholders, not only for their confidence, but also for their continued support and for the expertise they bring to the Company.

The Board of Directors expresses its gratitude to OPWP, OWWSC, the Authority for Public Services Regulation, Muscat Clearing and Depository, the Capital Market Authority and the Government of Oman for their tremendous support in regulating and developing the water sector, and for their assistance, which comforts the smooth functioning of our operations.

Finally, we would like to extend our deep appreciation and gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tareq bin Taimour for his wise leadership; we pray to Almighty to shower him with blessings, keep him in good health and give him a long life.

Thank you and kind regards,

Sebastien Chauvin

Chairman

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 RO	2020 RO
Revenue	13,776,377	13,459,810
Cost of sales	(9,139,057)	(8,140,372)
GROSS PROFIT	4,637,320	5,319,438
Administrative and general expenses	(776,768)	(709,043)
Finance expenses	(2,671,668)	(2,908,426)
Reversal / provision for Expected Credit Loss	38,008	(116,981)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	1,226,892	1,584,988
Taxation	(275,544)	(237,827)
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	951,348	1,347,161
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (EXPENSE), NET OF TAX		
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Fair value adjustment on derivatives	3,045,150	(2,178,172)
Deferred tax on fair value adjustment	(456,773)	326,726
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (EXPENSE) / INCOME FOR THE YEAR, NET OF TAX	2,588,377	(1,851,446)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (EXPENSE) / INCOME FOR THE YEAR	3,539,725	(504,285)
BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE	0.010	0.014

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	2021 RO	2020 RO
ASSETS		
Property and equipment	439,756	477,568
Finance lease receivable	58,932,127	62,168,988
Right-of-use assets	137,550	14,682
Total non-current assets	59,509,433	62,661,238
Trade and other receivables	1,659,727	1,361,735
Amount due from related parties	73,750	87,283
Finance lease receivable	3,266,199	2,999,477
Cash and cash equivalents	2,113,649	2,059,932
Total current assets	7,113,325	6,508,427
TOTAL ASSETS	66,622,758	69,169,665
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	9,780,216	9,780,216
Legal reserve	2,516,882	2,421,747
Retained earnings	5,718,283	6,208,806
Cumulative changes in fair values	(3,712,334)	(6,300,712)
Total equity	14,303,047	12,110,057
Liabilities		
Derivative financial instruments	3,893,164	6,634,155
Long term loan	39,691,997	42,755,333
Deferred tax liability	2,661,846	1,929,530
Deferred revenue	284,650	294,373
Employees' end of service benefit	102,329	88,948
Lease liabilities	81,418	6,145
Total non-current liabilities	46,715,404	51,708,484
Derivative financial instruments	474,286	778,446
Trade and other payables	917,620	521,207
Long term loan	3,145,763	3,049,464
Amount due to related parties	999,678	981,948
Lease liabilities	57,238	11,162
Deferred revenue	9,722	8,897
Total current liabilities	5,604,307	5,351,124
Total liabilities	52,319,711	57,059,608
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	66,622,758	69,169,665
Net asset value per share*	0.146	0.124



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INVASION IMMINENT

US asks its non-emergency staff to leave embassy in Kyiv

KYIV: The United States on Saturday urged its non-emergency staff to leave its Embassy in Kyiv on the basis of Western intelligence officials warning that a Russian invasion of Ukraine is increasingly imminent.

“Today, the State Department ordered non-emergency US employees at the Embassy to depart due to continued reports of a Russian military build-up on the border with Ukraine, indicating potential for significant military action,” US Embassy Kyiv tweeted.

“As of Sunday, February 13, 2022, the Department of State will suspend consular services at the US Embassy in Kyiv,” an official statement read. “The Embassy will maintain a small consular presence in Lviv, Ukraine to handle emergencies, but will not be able to provide passport, visa or routine consular services.”

The news came as reports emerged that the US is planning



a full evacuation of its embassy in the Ukrainian capital.

On Friday, US President Joe Biden urged Americans to leave Ukraine and Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that Russian forces could invade its neighbor “at any time,” including before the conclusion of the Beijing Winter Olympics, which is set to

end on February 20.

Israel asks embassy personnel to leave

Israel has already confirmed it will evacuate the families of its diplomats and other embassy personnel working in Ukraine, and now the United States is expected to follow suit.

White House officials said the State Department plans to announce early Saturday that almost all American staff at the Kyiv embassy will be required to leave.

Some may remain in Ukraine, near Polish border

Earlier on Saturday, the Associated Press reported that the US government was mulling a full evacuation of the US embassy.

According to the report, the US may keep a small number of officials may remain in the Ukrainian capital but the vast majority of the almost 200 Americans at the embassy would be sent out or relocated to the far west of the country, near the Polish border, so that Washington can at least retain a diplomatic presence there.

The United States has already warned its citizens not to travel to Ukraine over the “increased threat of Russian military action.” -DW



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BRIDGE BLOCKADE

Canadian judge orders end of blockade at US border bridge

OTTAWA: A Canadian judge said on Friday that demonstrators blocking a bridge between the US and Canada must disperse. The so-called “Freedom Blockade” has significantly hampered the flow of goods between the two North American neighbours, as demonstrators protest against Prime Minister Justin Trudeau’s government and coronavirus policies. The judge granted an injunction calling for the demonstrators to leave the area on the Windsor, Canada side of the Ambassador Bridge, which connects to the US city of Detroit.

The Mayor of Windsor, Drew Dilkens, tweeted that the judge’s order called for the protesters to clear the bridge by 7:00 p.m. local time (0000 GMT). -DW

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SPORTS

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Maniz Azad, OHI book exciting B Division wins

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Star Omani all-rounder Shuaib Ismail Al Balushi was the hero of Maniz Azad International's 4-wicket win over OCT Al Hail A in a 30-over B Division League game at Muscat Municipality ground 2 on Friday.

OCT Al Hail A posted 183 for 6 on the board thanks to top knocks from Ismail Ghulam (80) and Abdul Ghani (56). Shuaib and Kamran Ijaz were the pick of Maniz Azad bowlers, taking two wickets each.

Maniz raced to the target in only 18.4 overs, scoring 184 for 6. Krishna Pradhan led the way with a solid 59 not out off 33 whereas Shuaib struck a strokeful 55 off 32. Nadhir Ghulam and Suhaib Abdul claimed two wickets each.

Brief Scores (B Division 30 overs): Oct Al Hail 'A' 183 for 6 in 30 over (Ismail Ghulam 80 – 6x4, 2x6, Abdul Ghani 56 – 6x4, Shuaib Ismail 2-32, Kamran Ijaz 2-26) lost to Maniz Azad International 184 for 6 in 18.4 overs (Krishna Pradhan 59 – 10x4, Shuaib Ismail 55 – 9x4, Kamran Ijaz 33 – 3x4, 2x6, Nadhir Ghulam 2-33, Suhaib Abdul 2-23) by 4 wickets.

Murtaza bowls OHI to victory

In another B Division clash at Muscat Municipality ground 1, Douglas OHI beat Bank Muscat by 3 wickets thanks to a wonderful 5 for 20 by Murtaza Shah.

Murtaza's spell was instrumental in restricting Bank Muscat to a modest 132 for 9 in 30 overs. Shamsudheen Shareef lent him excellent support, taking 3 for 17. Sarmad Mehmood top-scored with an unbeaten 64.

OHI had a few hiccups before chasing down the target in 23.4 overs, scoring 135 for 7 as Santosh Vishwakarma top-scored with 30 off 32. Amir Mehmood was brilliant with the ball, claim-



ing 4 for 20.

Brief Scores (B Division): Bank Muscat 132 for 9 in 30 overs (Sarmad Mehmood 64 – 6x4, Murtaza Shah 5-20, Shamsudheen Shareef 3-17) lost to Douglas OHI 135 for 7 in 23.4 overs (Santosh Vishwakarma 30 – 4x4, Chintan Kamlesh 22 – 3x4, Amir Mehmood 4-20) by 3 wickets.

Rahul stars in another Vanderlande win

Vanderlande magic man Rahul Chadha powered his side to an emphatic 79-run victory against Al Waad Trading and Contracting Enterprises in a C Division T20 League game at Muscat Municipality ground 2 in Amerat on Friday.

Vanderlande's imposing total of 217 for 8 included major contributions from Rahul (51), Barathwaj Vinayagam (46) and Aasim Mohammed (46). Rathesh Puliyakottu picked up 3 for 29. Al Waad struggled to keep up with the mounting run rate and could manage to score only 138 for 8 in 20 overs as Haja Hussain (3 for 19), Aasim Mohammed (2 for 21) and Rahul Chadha (2 for 28) made things difficult for them with their superb bowling. Suseendran Siraichezhian top-scored with 40.

Brief Scores (C Division): Vanderlande 217 for 8 in 20 overs (Rahul Chadha 51 – 6x4, 1x6, Barathwaj Vinayagam 46 – 4x4,

Aasim Mohammed 46 – 7x4, Rathesh Puliyakottu 3-26, Sujith Kumar 2-29) beat Al Waad Trad & Contracting Enterprises 138 for 8 in 20 overs (Suseendran Siraichezhian 40 – 5x4, Parthip-an Krishnan 32 – 3x4, Haja Hussain 3-19, Aasim Mohammed 2-21, Rahul Chadha 2-28,) by 79 runs.

Sajid stars in Khalsa win

In another C Division match, Sajid Ali's superb 61 not out helped Khalsa United to a 21-run win over Al Jadidi Engineering and Contracting at Muscat Municipality ground 1.

Khalsa could not compile a big total due to Al Jadidi's brilliant bowling and had to be content with 125 for 8. Rohit Thanikattu and Charles Jacob claimed two wickets each. Khalsa bowled even better, dismissing Al Jadidi for a lowly 104 in 18.1 overs thanks to outstanding spells by Sushil Kadam (3 for 9), Majid Rafique (3 for 12) and Harminder Singh (3 for 24). Only Vaseem Pyarejan batted well, scoring 47 not out off 30.

Brief Scores (C Division): Khalsa United 125 for 6 in 20 overs (Sajid Ali 61 – 3x4, Rohit Thanikattu 2-24, Charles Jacob 2-18) beat Al Jadidi Engineering And Contracting Llc 104 all out in 18.1 overs (Vaseem Pyarejan 47 – 8x4, Sushil Kadam 3-9, Majid Rafique 3-12, Harminder Singh 3-24) by 21 runs.

IPL AUCTION

Charu Sharma continues IPL auction proceedings after Edmeades collapses

BENGALURU: Cricket presenter Charu Sharma will replace Hugh Edmeades who collapsed on stage mid-way during the Indian Premier League 2022 auction proceedings on Saturday here in Bengaluru.

Edmeades, the IPL auctioneer collapsed when the bidding for Sri Lanka spinner Wanindu Hasaranga was going on. A medical team attended to him immediately after the incident and he is now stable,

the IPL informed adding that Charu Sharma will continue with the auction proceedings for the day. "Mr. Hugh Edmeades, the IPL Auctioneer, had an unfortunate fall due to Postural Hypotension during the IPL Auction this afternoon. The medical team attended to him immediately after the incident & he is stable. Mr. Charu Sharma will continue with the Auction proceedings today," IPL tweeted.

Earlier in the auction, India

opening batter Shikhar Dhawan was acquired by Punjab Kings for Rs 8.25 crore. Spinner Ravichandran Ashwin was bought by Rajasthan Royals for Rs 5 crore. Australia Test captain Pat Cummins was taken by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) for Rs 7.25 crore.

Royals for Rs 8 crore. Shreyas Iyer was picked up by KKR for Rs 12.25 crore. India pacer Mohammed Shami was picked up by Gujarat Titans for Rs 6.25 crore. **ANI**



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Muscat Gases Company SAOG About offering a tender for construction works for its branch located in Duqm "Cooking Gas Filling Station" that includes installation works, electrical connections and civil works as follows:

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- The tender document, specifications and scope of work can be obtained from the company's website <https://www.muscatgas.com/tenders>
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4	Netherlands	5	4	2	11
5	Sweden	5	2	3	10
6	Austria	4	6	4	14
7	PR China	4	3	1	8
8	ROC	3	4	6	13
9	Italy	2	5	4	11
10	Japan	2	3	5	10
11	Slovenia	2	1	2	5
12	Switzerland	2	0	5	7
13	France	1	6	0	7
14	Canada	1	4	8	13
15	Australia	1	2	1	4
15	Republic of Korea	1	2	1	4
17	Finland	1	1	2	4
18	Czech Republic	1	0	1	2
19	New Zealand	1	0	0	1
19	Slovakia	1	0	0	1
21	Belarus	0	1	0	1
21	Spain	0	1	0	1
23	Hungary	0	0	2	2
24	Belgium	0	0	1	1
24	Latvia	0	0	1	1
24	Poland	0	0	1	1

timesofoman.com

SPRINT BIATHLON

Norway’s Boe takes men’s 10km sprint biathlon gold in Beijing

CHONGLI: Johannes Thingnes Boe won Norway another gold medal in the men’s 10km sprint biathlon in 24 minutes and 0.4 seconds at the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics on Saturday.

This is the second gold for the 28-year-old, who also won the mixed relay 4x6km with his Norwegian teammates on February 5, before taking bronze in the men’s 20km individual on February 8.

France’s Quentin Fillon Maillet, winner of the 20km race, finished second with one miss in prone, 25.5 seconds back.

Fillon Maillet, also a silver medalist in mixed relay, has collected three medals at Beijing 2022 Games so far. The French was satisfied with his third medal, but not happy with his overall performance.

“I am very happy to have my third medal in three races. Second place is good in the Olympics. If I had clean shooting today it would have been very close for the gold medal. It’s not all about the medal, there is a race tomorrow,” said Fillon Maillet as he already set his eyes on Sunday’s 12.5km pursuit.

Johannes Thingnes’ brother Tarjei Boe won the bronze medal, 38.9 seconds behind the winner.

The Norwegian brothers said they were proud of sharing the podium as brothers at the Olympics.

They will also vie for the men’s 15km mass start title on February 18.



GOLD MEDAL: This is the second gold for the 28-year-old, who also won the mixed relay 4x6km with his Norwegian teammates.

-Xinhua

CRICKET

Ireland beat Oman, UAE defeat Nepal

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ireland thumped Oman by 9 wickets in the 3rd game of the quadrangular T20 series at the Oman Cricket Academy Ground on Saturday.

Batting first after losing the toss, it was Shoaib Khan’s turn to rescue the Omani innings this time around, after the openers were dismissed for a combined score of 2. His magnificent 57 off 38 balls kept the hosts in the game. Ayaan Khan provided some much-needed stability at the other end, and their 41-run partnership turned the game into a contest once again.

From 73/2 they were reduced to 100/6, thanks to some brilliant spin bowling by Simi Singh. He finished with figures of 3/9.

Keeper Naseem Khushi’s 14 ball 24, along with Kaleemullah at the very end ensured that Oman got past the total they managed against Nepal. But once again they were unable to bat out their quota of 20 overs, folding for 137 with four balls to spare.

Openers Paul Stirling and Andy Balbarnie stitched together a 103-run partnership that effectively decided the game in Ireland’s favour.

By the time Stirling was dismissed for 51, an Irish victory was merely a formality. Ireland got over the line with 17 balls to spare.

Batting first after losing the toss, UAE’s Chirag Suri and Rohan Mustafa put together a 97-run third wicket partnership to pile the pressure on their opponents. Suri stayed put until the very end, and some power hitting at the death from Basil Hameed and Mohammad Boota ensured that the UAE posted a colossal total of 192 at the end of 20 overs.

In response, the Nepali batsmen were never really able to keep up with the sky-high asking rate. Everyone on the roster put in a valiant effort and chipped in with useful totals, with Dipendra Singh Airee in particular top scoring with a classy 33 ball 41. But ultimately, they fell well short, losing by 25 runs.



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FOREX RESERVES RISE

India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves increased by \$2.198 billion to \$631.953 billion for the week ended February 4 led by a sharp increase in foreign currency assets, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed.

MARKET BUSINESS & FINANCE



GULFOOD 2022 EXHIBITION

Global industry leaders, innovators and major disruptors will examine the latest trends and create meaningful dialogue to chart a better food future at Gulfood 2022, the 27th edition of the world's largest annual F&B sourcing event.

60% of crane project at Port of Duqm completed: Opaz

The project to supply container cranes, includes allocating 10 per cent of the business value to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises, which will be implemented during the preparation and installation period



SELECTION: The selection of these cranes came for their high, smart, and fast capabilities in container handling, as they were equipped with (5G) technologies in addition to a fibre-optic system to transport data to the crane operator for remote control. - Supplied picture

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz) announced completing 60 per cent of the supply and installation project of con-

tainer cranes and bridge cranes for the commercial berth at the Port of Duqm which are equipped to handle the world's largest container ship.

This project comes as part of the second package of the commercial berth at the Port of Duqm. Opaz

awarded the project to design, manufacture, supply, install, test, and operate containers cranes, and bridge cranes to the Irish Liebherr company on April 27, 2021. The project includes supplying 4 Ship-To-Shore containers (STS)

and other 12 Rubber-Tyred Gantry (TRG) cranes with a lifting capacity of up to 41 tonnes.

The selection of these cranes came for their high, smart, and fast capabilities in container handling, as they were equipped with (5G)

technologies in addition to a fibre-optic system to transport data to the crane operator for remote control. In addition to providing them with automatic driving systems, a yard monitoring system, and an automatic landing system, with a reach capacity of 71 metres and a rear reach of 18 metres, enabling it to handle the world's largest container ships. The project to supply containers cranes includes allocating 10 per cent of the business value to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), which will be implemented during the preparation and installation period.

The project also includes a training programme for 4 young Omanis in several fields in the basics of mechanical engineering and structures in the factories of the manufacturer and training in the installation period. Opaz has agreed with the Port of Duqm that the cranes will be operated by male and female Omani youth using a 5G technologies operation system that enables remote control from the control rooms of the Port.

It is worth noting that the Port of Duqm is operating through temporary cranes. Duqm Port is one of the most important drivers of the

Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) and one of the strategic projects developed by the Sultanate of Oman to support the national economy and revitalise the economic movement.

The size of the Port of Duqm and the capabilities available and the developed infrastructure enabled the Port to attract investments to the Zone, especially the industries sector. The total length of the breakwaters is about 8.7 km, the depth of the port basin is 18 metres and the entry channel is 19 meters, which qualifies it to receive and handle giant container ships. The port consists of 3 main berths, the commercial berth, the government berth, and the liquid and bulk material berth (oil berth).

The port is currently operating with temporary cranes, and the length of the commercial berth is 2.2 km and consists of five terminals, including a multi-purpose terminal, RORO terminal, a container terminal, a marine terminal, a bulk and dry material terminal. The port spreads over 187.9 km, 2,000 hectares of which were allocated for industrial zones, and 1,000 hectares were allocated for the port's logistics zones.

BANK NIZWA

Forum held on settlement of Islamic finance disputes by conciliation and arbitration

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As part of its strategic corporate social responsibility, Bank Nizwa, Oman's first dedicated Islamic bank co-organised the 'Settlement of Islamic Finance Disputes by Conciliation and Arbitration' workshop in collaboration with the College of Sharia Sciences.

Organised in line with its efforts to support the national agenda of Oman 2040 Vision, the workshop aimed to empowering the national cadres to manage and resolve disputes settlement in Islamic finance by following conciliation and arbitration methods.

Commenting on enhancing the Islamic banking industry, Dr Mansoor Ali Al-Qudah, Head of Sharia Department at Bank Nizwa said, "The Sultanate of Oman has witnessed a remarkable development in the Islamic banking sector in recent times, and Bank Nizwa has played a vital role in stimulating the growth of Islamic Banking. The bank continuously records outstanding financial results and provides Sharia-compliant products and services. However, the development of this industry has led to an increase in Islamic finance disputes due to conducting Islamic banking contracts and transactions. Therefore, rigorous efforts must be made to qualify the national cadres to explore and dissolve disputes in Islamic banking by following the methods of conciliation and arbitration. At Bank Nizwa, we are committed to supporting the development of the Islamic banking landscape, and enhancing awareness of the Islam-



ic finance role as it is one of the important sectors for building a sustainable national economy, as well as we endeavour to mark a positive impact on the comprehensive Islamic banking system, which will certainly witness promising growth in the near future."

During the three-day workshop, a number of papers were discussed and lectures were delivered by specialists in the field covering related issues of financial dispute resolutions in Islamic banks.

It was attended by a wide range of experts and specialists working in Islamic finance and banking from both the public and private sectors. These professionals intended to qualify the national cadres to master the mechanism of settling these disputes in compliance with the Islamic Sharia and

advanced international professional standards.

"As a socially responsible bank, we are committed to contributing to the sustainable socio-economic development of the Sultanate through our strategic partnership with various entities. Bank Nizwa recognises its scope of activity extends beyond banking service to serve the local communities by supporting various social initiatives and programmes. This sponsorship comes in the framework of the bank's commitment to actively contribute to the national objectives of the Sultanate's vision, as this workshop aims to deliver one of the main pillars of the vision, which is qualifying and educating the national cadres, enabling them to compete in global markets in the future," added Dr Al-Qudah.

As part of the workshop, Dr Mansoor Al-Qudah, Head of Sharia at Bank Nizwa presented a paper titled 'Contracts for Digital Islamic Financing Products and Tools - e-Commerce', where several topics were discussed, including procedures of Sharia governance in Omani Islamic banks and the future of Islamic banks in light of the technological advancement. Dr Mansoor further highlighted the most prominent Islamic financing and investment tools like Murabaha, Ijara, Musharaka and Mudharaba, as well as the role of financial engineering in developing digital tools particularly with the widespread use of advanced technology. In his paper, Dr Mansoor discussed Sharia-compliant e-commerce by shedding light on the general jurisprudential rules related to financial transactions in e-commerce.

Bank Nizwa, the leading and most trusted Islamic bank in the Sultanate, maintains a long-standing commitment to raising awareness on the concept and principles of Islamic finance and sharing its multifaceted benefits with people across the Sultanate by continuously supporting initiatives that enhance the Islamic banking sector. The bank has always been at the forefront in supporting a range of initiatives and projects that have a positive impact on society, which includes educational initiatives and charities registered with the Ministry of Social Development. Additionally, the bank recently collaborated with Imam Jabir Bin Zaid Waqf Foundation to sponsor the first Waqf forum.

GLOBAL LOGISTICS HUB



Sohar Port to receive first direct container shipments from Singapore, Malaysia

Times News Service

MUSCAT: With the arrival of the Omani-owned container vessel recently acquired by Asyad Shipping, the port of Sohar will be receiving on Sunday, its first direct container shipment via the new direct shipping line launched by Oman, represented by Asyad Group, with the Singaporean and Malaysian ports.

The opening of this direct shipping line feeds into the initiatives implemented by Asyad to promote the competitiveness of ports in Oman, enhance their operational efficiency and harness their logistics potential by

linking them via direct lines with various global commercial ports, to provide an added value to the economy and cement Oman's position as a global logistics hub and transit gateway. This new container line is set to increase trade with Asian countries, provide competitive advantages to the local and regional business community, enhance all national exports to and from Singaporean and Malaysian and neighbouring markets, and provide Omani traders with a fast, time- and cost-effective access to Singapore as an international distribution hub and subsequently to Southeast Asian markets.

CLEAN FUEL VEHICLES

Ford, Suzuki to get incentives under India's \$3.5bn clean fuel scheme



INCENTIVES SCHEME: A total of 115 automakers and auto part makers applied for the incentives scheme. - BNA

NEW DELHI: Ford Motor Co, Suzuki Motor and Hyundai Motor are among 20 companies that will be eligible for incentives under India's \$3.5 billion scheme to boost clean fuel vehicles, the government said on Friday.

The federal cabinet last year approved a plan under which it will give benefits to the automobile sector over a five-year period to boost production of electric and hydrogen fuel-powered vehicles and their components, Reuters reported.

The scheme is also part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government plan to cut the fuel import bill and bring down pollution by encouraging local produc-

tion of clean vehicles.

Applications approved

The ministry of heavy industries said it has approved applications from 20 companies which also include Kia Motors, Tata Motors, Mahindra & Mahindra and Softbank-Group Ola Electric.

Ford last year decided to stop selling cars in India but has still retained its two factories in the country. The automaker is exploring the possibility of using one of its plants in India as a base to produce electric cars for export.

Tata Motors said it is committed "to shape India's vehicular landscape with smart and sustainable

mobility solutions".

Suzuki, Hyundai, Kia, Mahindra and Ola did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A total of 115 automakers and auto part makers applied for the incentives scheme. The government will announce the final list of auto component makers at a later date.

The incentives will range from 8 per cent to 18 per cent of the sales value of the vehicles or components and will be given to companies if they meet certain conditions such as a minimum investment over five years and 10 per cent growth in sales each year, Reuters has previously reported. -BNA

 MARKET

Industry leaders to examine latest trends to chart better food future

The mega event Gulfood 2022 brings leading business tycoons from the food and beverage industry, retail heads, agriculturists, technologists, policymakers, ministers, analysts and futurists from around the world under one roof

DUBAI: Global industry leaders, innovators and major disruptors will examine the latest trends and create meaningful dialogue to chart a better food future at Gulfood 2022, the 27th edition of the world's largest annual F&B sourcing event.

The mega event, running from February 13-17 at Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC), will also see a host of high-calibre F&B decision-makers share valuable insights on evolving trends in the all-new Gulfood Inspire conference, during an informative and educational five days.

business tycoons from the food and beverage industry, retail heads, agriculturists, technologists, policymakers, ministers, analysts and futurists from around the world under one roof.

A star-studded line-up of award-winning chefs will showcase their culinary skills to the attendees. World-famous food journalists, influencers, disruptors and global trendsetters will also attend the occasion.

Organisers say this year visitors can expect a brand new programme roster. It features Gulfood Zero Waste, which will shed light on major global food issues; Gul-



MEGA EVENT: The mega event will also see a host of high-calibre F&B decision-makers share valuable insights on evolving trends in the all-new Gulfood Inspire conference, during an informative and educational five days. - WAM

food Top Table, an initiative highlighting culinary experiences with a live line-up of chefs and food influencers; Gulfood e-commerce platform, a networking and conference agenda; Gulfood YouthX, a platform to empower the most

promising aspiring chefs; Gulfood Inspire, which sees a host of speakers take to the stage and the Global Changemakers a future-focused start-up programme.

The event will underscore the UAE's status at the forefront of

sector change and its leading role in tackling global issues.

The 2022 edition is also poised to act as a springboard for some of the latest innovations in sustainable packaging and carbon zero food products.

Major global challenges, trends and change drivers will be examined, including e-commerce, technology, sustainability and disruptive cellular agriculture bio-innovation (the production of animal-sourced foods from cell culture methods) and emerging slow and plant-based food trends.

Driving creativity and change, this year's edition will shape the future of food. In another industry first, this year's event will feature an e-commerce platform, an exclusive networking and conference agenda powering the increasingly growing role of the digital marketplace in the food supply chain.

The event also pledges to provide a secure and hygienic environment to ensure the health and safety of every participant and attendee. With product sampling and handling a vital interaction at the global F&B event, DWTC's proven protocols have been further intensified. Under strict guidance and coordination with the Dubai Health Authority and Dubai Municipality to ensure the safest possible business conditions.

Wearing masks is mandatory, with social distancing in place to ensure the wellbeing of all delegates. - WAM

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES

India's forex reserves rise by \$2.19 billion to \$631.95 billion

MUMBAI: India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves increased by \$2.198 billion to \$631.953 billion for the week ended February 4 led by a sharp increase in foreign currency assets, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed. According to the RBI's Weekly Statistical Supplement, foreign currency assets rose by \$2.251 billion to \$568.329 billion during the week under review. Expressed in US dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-dollar currencies like Euro, UK's Pound sterling, Japanese Yen held in the foreign exchange reserves. Foreign currency asset is the

biggest component of India's forex reserves. Other components of the forex reserves include gold, SDRs, and reserve position in the International Monetary Fund (IMF). India's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund rose by \$98 million to \$19.108 billion. -ANI

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INDIA

Government's inflation management is robust

WASHINGTON: The government's inflation management is robust and it has handled the price rise during the COVID-19 crisis in a much more efficient manner than the UPA government did during the 2008-09 global financial crisis, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said on Friday. Replying to the general discussion on Union Budget 2022-23 in Rajya Sabha, the Finance Minister noted that the Indian economy suffered a loss of Rs 9.57 lakh crore during the Coronavirus pandemic while the loss to the economy during the 2008-09 global financial crisis was Rs 2.12 lakh crore. Sitharaman said Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government has handled the much bigger crisis in a more efficient manner. "CPI inflation of that time (2008-09 crisis) was 9.1 per cent, for a reduction of only Rs 2.12 lakh crore when the global financial crisis hit us. But when the COVID pandemic hit us, the loss to GDP was Rs 9.57 lakh crore. Our management of inflation was such that it was only 6.2 per cent. The opposition couldn't handle the lesser crisis," Sitharaman said. -ANI

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IS BEDTIME MEDIA USE HARMFUL FOR SLEEP?

It's not uncommon to hear people rant about becoming insomniac, especially post the COVID-19 pandemic. Even the early birds started staying up late into the night, binge-watching films or web series or scrolling through social media, as there was no other outlet during then. But how much does that impact our bodies? A new study opened up about this.

The study was published in the 'Journal of Sleep Research'. The research examined how sleep might be impacted by media use – such as watching movies, television, or YouTube videos; browsing the Internet, or listening to music—before bed.

In the study, 58 adults kept a diary that recorded information related to time spent with media before bed, location of use, and multitasking.

Electroencephalography – tests that detect electrical activity of the brain using small metal discs attached to the scalp—captured parameters such as bedtime, total sleep time, and sleep quality.

Media use in the hour before sleep was associated with an earlier bedtime. If the before-bed use did not involve multitasking and was conducted in bed, it was also associated with more total sleep time.

A long use of media was associated with later bedtime and less total sleep time. Sleep quality was unaffected by media use before bed.

“If you are going to use media, like watching TV or listening to music, before bed, keep it a short, focused session and you are unlikely to experience any negative outcomes in your sleep that night,” said lead author Morgan Ellithorpe, PhD, of the University of Delaware. -ANI

ROUND-UP

Bank Muscat: An innovative journey in offering banking services and products

The bank has grown to become the partner of choice over the past four decades

MUSCAT: Over the past four decades, Bank Muscat has firmly established itself as one of the leading financial institutions in the Sultanate. It has been contributing to enhancing the services provided in the banking sector and has become the customers' first choice as a banking partner.

Moreover, the bank has played a pioneering role in planning and implementing CSR programmes and initiatives as well as developing Omani human resources. Its long-standing experience since the 80s has culminated in the broad success of its outstanding suite of services and products, which were developed in alignment with the technological transformation of the modern age. This success would not have been possible without the strong support of its valued customers who have been partners in the bank's journey since the beginning and its constant development over the past 40 years. Bank Muscat is delighted to dedicate this success to its loyal customers and assures them that it is working to continue this inspiring journey with them and play a part in making their dreams come true. Today, Bank Muscat leads the financial services sector in the Sultanate with over RO 12 billion in assets, 174 branches and more than 800 ATMs and CDMs spread across the country making it the preferred choice for customers.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahmed Faqir Al Bulushi, Chief Banking Officer, Bank Muscat, said, "We are delighted with the bank's outstanding achievements over the past four decades and are proud of the prominent role it plays in the Sultanate. As one of the great success stories of the Blessed Renaissance, Bank Muscat has become a trusted partner to one and all, whether to the government, corporates or individuals. The bank has strengthened the Sultanate's banking sector as an Omani institution



that provides a full suite of banking products, services and solutions. It is also notable that the bank is contributing greatly to helping our valued customers achieve their dreams and aspirations."

Ahmed Faqir Al Bulushi explained that Bank Muscat would continue to harness all its capabilities and expertise to provide the best possible services across the Sultanate. He added, "Digital transformation has elevated the services and facilities offered to our large family of customers. The bank's efforts have been instrumental in achieving greater financial inclusion in the Sultanate and today, customers can obtain banking services quickly and promptly whether they are at their homes, offices or even on the move. We would like to assure our customers that Bank Muscat will continue its journey of inspiring innovation powered by new global banking trends, valued feedback from our customers and the Government's efforts to take the fruits of growth and development to all parts of the country as part of the ambitious and forward-looking Oman Vision 2040."

Experienced and qualified human resources

Bank Muscat has been greatly encouraged by the results of its continuous investments in human resources. It has been closely supporting efforts for further development of youth through specialised programmes and courses to realise national development goals. The bank recognises that employees are its core strength and the primary reason for its success and accomplishments. Hence, it constantly invests resources and time to further develop their skills and help them reach their peak



potential. From the moment of joining the bank, suitable training and development opportunities are provided to make employees skilled with work-related processes and procedures such that they can deliver to the best of their abilities. The bank is responsive to employee feedback and strives to ensure a professional work environment that is based on fair and equal opportunities to all employees, cutting-edge technology and global financial best practices. The bank has over 3800 employees and boasts of an excellent Omanisation ratio of over 95%. With its positive work culture, common values, fostering of innovation, employee engagement activities, and sound HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) practices, Bank Muscat is a dream employer for many job seekers in the Sultanate, particularly those who are interested in the banking and financial services sector.

Developed banking network

In line with its commitment to enhancing financial inclusion and ensuring wider availability of its services and products, Bank Muscat has the largest network in Oman with 174 branches and over 800 ATMs, CDMs and other electronic devices. Customers can enjoy a large number of services through this network starting from opening accounts to helping them get finances that meet their various needs such as Sayyarati, Baituna or personal finances and many more. The shift from traditional to digital banking remains an ongoing process with new features and services being continuously added for the benefit of customers.

The biggest advantage of digital banking is that it gives people more

ways than ever to access the services they need for their daily banking needs. Today, digital banking provides many tools and features that were not available in the traditional banking space. The development in digital services in the Sultanate has gone through different stages and has witnessed a quantum leap thanks to technological advancements in the recent past.

Exclusive banking services

In line with its vision 'To serve you better, everyday' and commitment to customer service excellence, Bank Muscat is keen to further develop its services and products to meet customer aspirations and needs and be in line with global financial trends. Its Retail Banking unit offers a full suite of products and services designed specifically to the needs of individual customers of all ages. In particular, Bank Muscat Premier Banking has been setting benchmarks through the banking facilities offered by Asalah Priority Banking and Al Jawhar Privilege Banking. These innovative services are aimed at offering suitable customer-centric financial solutions.

The dynamic nature of the payments landscape is constantly opening up new opportunities for innovation and growth. Today, customers can enjoy a fast and secure banking experience 24/7 from the comfort of their homes and offices. Already a large number of customers are using the various features available such as bill payments, mobile top-ups, payments within Bank Muscat and Oman and international payments and transfers, enabling/disabling Debit Cards for international usage, opening new accounts through the website, opening new savings



account for existing customers through Mobile banking, booking of fixed deposits, QR-code-based PoS payments etc. They can make Speed Transfers to Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Egypt with instant credit to the beneficiary account in many cases, in addition to remittances across the globe through the SWIFT network. The bank's customers find digital banking channels a convenient option to pay school fees, mobile top-ups, transfer of funds within the bank and Oman, change of PIN, loading funds on mobile wallet, prepaid card and cheque book requests among others. The development of electronic services in the Sultanate has gone through different stages, each of which witnessed a qualitative leap thanks to the development of technology and information technology. These services saw their beginning in the field of retail banking to give customers

more options and greater ease of access to different services thanks to the multiple tools and features available around the clock.

Contact Centre services

Bank Muscat's Contact Centre represents an important channel of communication for the bank's customers to get in touch quickly with the bank whenever the need arises. As part of its customer-centric strategy, Bank Muscat operates the largest Contact Centre in the banking sector in the Sultanate, which is manned by a team of competent and highly-trained Omani phone bankers. The Contact Centre uses an integrated voice response (IVR) system to respond to simple queries, while phone bankers are always available 24/7 to handle more complex queries and clarifications.

It is a matter of pride that the Contact Centre, which receives millions of calls annually, has minimal waiting time with 90% of the calls being answered within 20 seconds. It is reachable at 24795555 via call or WhatsApp. The Contact Centre, which offers a number of banking services including fund transfers, utility bill payments, cheque book requests, real-time deposit and exchange rates, has previously won the Best Industry Call Centre (Banking) at the prestigious Insights Middle East Call Centre Awards.

EXPO

Karwa Motors participates in Mena Transport Exhibition

MUSCAT: Karwa Motors, Oman's first-ever bus brand and manufacturing facility was well received by visitors at the recent Mena Transport Exhibition. A dedicated stand at the exhibition provided Karwa Motors with the opportunity to promote its transportation solutions to over 2,000 attendees throughout the event, which ran from February 6 to 8.

Karwa Motors CEO, Dr Ibrahim Albalushi, commented on the company's participation in the exhibition, saying, "The Mena Transport Exhibition is one of the foremost exhibitions of its kind in the region. It offered us the perfect avenue to meet with and showcase our brand, transportation solutions, technology, and manufacturing capabilities to leading industry experts, potential clients, and key decision-makers from the region."

The Mena Transport Exhibition is a leading biennial business and networking platform for all



the players of the public transport sector. The exhibition was held in Dubai and was organised by UITP (Union Internationale des Transports Publics) in partnership with RTA. It brought together over 50 exhibitors, comprising industry leaders, authorities, operators, and expert international voices to exchange experiences, solutions, ideas, and business opportunities

concerning the latest innovations in the public transport sector.

"Through our strong presence in such a significant expo, not only will we be able to establish ourselves as major players in the region's transportation industry, but also proudly position Oman as a regional leader in automotive and industrial development," said Dr Ibrahim Al Balushi.

CONVENIENT

Renault introduces five hassle-free ways to book service appointment

MUSCAT: Renault Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles, has announced five hassle-free ways to book service appointments for its customers. To book an appointment, customers can call toll free number 80050011, SMS 'TypeBook' and send to 99825454, email appointment@sbigh.com, WhatsApp: 97692689 or log on to www.myrenault-me.com.

A spokesperson for SBA said, "All Renault customers can book service appointments through five modes of communication for added convenience. They don't have to stand in line to book the service. This facility is designed to offer a hassle-free service experience and complete peace of mind to customers."

As part of this service, customers can be assured of a contactless process. It saves their time and gives greater peace of mind and offers quick and easy solutions to suit customer needs. Custom-



ers can become exclusive Renault members by logging on to myrenault-me.com or by downloading the app and enjoying their myrenault ride. Enhancing after-sales services for existing buyers, My Renault App is a one-stop solution with a host of advanced features. Available on Android and iOS platforms, My Renault App has a perceptive design approach making it enormously user-friendly. My Renault App makes life easier by putting everything potential and ex-

isting buyers need to know about Renault, in one place. The app offers many innovative features along with functionality. With enhanced features, My Renault App caters to both sales and after-sales requirements of customers.

With growing new vehicle sales in the region, Renault is focusing on delivering the most convenient and cost-effective aftersales solutions to its customers driven by a vast network of distributors and market proximity.

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TIME TO MEET AGAIN

TURKISH AIRLINES

Key messages

- Hempel acquires Khimji Paints LLC in Oman
- Khimji Paints is a leading paint and coatings manufacturer in Oman, with a strong distribution network of more than 50 own and independent retailers
- This acquisition is Hempel's first acquisition in the Decorative segment in the Middle East
- The acquisition of Khimji Paints supports Hempel's strategy to double its revenue by 2025

Hempel acquires Omani coatings company, Khimji Paints LLC, expanding footprint in key market

“World-leading coatings manufacturer, Hempel, has acquired the coatings division of the Omani conglomerate, Khimji Ramdas, to expand its Oman operations and further establish itself as a market leader.”

Following an exclusive dialogue, Hempel has today completed the acquisition of Khimji Paints LLC. This is Hempel's first acquisition in the Decorative segment in the Middle East, supporting its strategy to double Hempel by 2025. Hempel's Double Impact strategy will be realised through both acquisitions and organic growth, as well as ambitious investments in sustainability, innovation and digitalisation.

Khimji Paints is a leading paint and coatings manufacturer in Oman, with a strong distribution network of more than 50 own and independent retailers. Khimji Paint was built on a solid foundation of superior quality, true value and excellent customer service, which matches perfectly with Hempel's purpose and values.

“This transaction marks a significant milestone for Hempel in our global growth journey,” says Joe Devitt, Executive Vice President of Decorative at Hempel. “We will now be

better equipped to meet the needs of our customers with an extensive offering of products and services.”

“With this acquisition, I am thrilled to welcome the entire Khimji team - over 70 new employees - into the Hempel family and a production facility, enabling us to increase capacity in the region,” continues Joe. “This gives Hempel a much bigger foothold in the Omani market.”

Hempel is at the forefront when it comes to innovation and quality. Adding Khimji to the Hempel family forms a leading player in decorative paints and coatings, bringing award-winning solutions to a wider market.

“We are excited that Hempel is in a strong position to offer better value propositions to Khimji Paints' loyal customers and we wish them all the best,” says Hritik Khimji, Director, Khimji Ramdas.

About Hempel

As a world-leading supplier of trusted coating solutions, Hempel is a global company with strong values, working with customers in the decorative, marine, infrastructure and energy industries. Hempel factories, R&D centres and stock points are established in every region.

Across the globe, Hempel's paints and coatings can be found in almost every country of the world. They protect and beautify buildings, infrastructure and other assets, and play an essential role in our customers' businesses. They help minimise maintenance costs, improve aesthetics and increase energy efficiency.

At Hempel, our purpose is to shape a brighter future with sustainable coating solutions. We firmly believe that we will succeed as a business only if we place sustainability at our heart. Not only is it the right thing to do, it will strengthen our competitive position, make ourselves more resilient and reduce our risk.

Hempel was founded in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1915. It is proudly owned by the Hempel Foundation, which ensures a solid economic base for the Hempel Group and supports cultural, social, humanitarian and scientific purposes around the world.

www.hempel.com

**For more information,
please contact:**

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Senior Communications Manager

Phone: +45 30772816

ROUND-UP



High performance intelligent 7-seat Changan CS95 available at low EMI

CS95, a flagship model of Changan, is a perfect seven-seater SUV for a large modern family who wants to travel in luxury, with business class comfort in all road conditions with its intelligent 4WD system

MUSCAT: Changan’s high-performance intelligent seven-seat SUV CS95 is now available at an EMI starting from OMR 260 for six years. EMI is calculated based on a 20 per cent down payment and six years loan tenure. Subject to Banks or Finance Company approvals. T&C apply. Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment, which is part of Bahwan International Group has also announced that the price includes a five per cent Value Added Tax (VAT). A spokesperson for AGAE said, “CS95, a flagship model of Changan, is a perfect seven-seater SUV for a large modern family who wants to travel in luxury, with business class comfort in all road conditions with its intelligent



gent 4WD system. We are thrilled to offer low EMI on CS95 which is packed with endless features and has numerous advantages over its segment competition.” The 2.0L turbo engine, 224 hp, 6-speed AT, and 4WD Changan CS95 which magnifies driving experience with sophisticated luxury and superior comfort has been designed to stir the driving emotions. Under the hood is a Blue Core 2.0L turbocharged engine mated with a six-speed AT which produces a 360 Nm of torque. Changan CS95 4WD features Business class comfort with perforated leather seats and lane departure warning. With a commanding presence and muscular stance, Changan CS95 is designed to demand attention wherever it goes. With meticulously crafted details complemented by

convenient technology, the CS95 ensures refined luxury in every drive for up to seven passengers. With a range of innovative driving technologies, the CS95 delivers an assured sense of confidence and control to the driver. Its Blue Core Powertrain Technology based on the principles of power, clean and quiet provides owners with a highly efficient and energy-saving performance. **Technical specifications** CS95’s vehicle specifications includes length x width x height of 4949mm x 1930mm x 1790mm, Blue Core 2.0L T GDI Turbocharged Gasoline Direct Injection engine, wheelbase of 2810mm, maximum output of 233 HP at 5000-5500 rpm, maximum torque of 360 Nm at 1750-3500 rpm, tyres

with 55/245 R19 alloy wheels and fuel tank capacity of 74 litres. **Changan CS95 SUV: Flagship model** Changan CS95 4W Dwide-winged grille represents strength and comfort and its matte texture with a bright strip are well matched. The original C-shaped light combines position lights, steering lamps, and daytime running lights. The sculpted waistline wraps around the entire body, creating an extraordinary visual. The floating roof design affords the vehicle a sense of speed. The two-tone rim design highlights the dynamic outline. Additionally, Changan shows ingenuity by integrating its V logo in the details. The refined instrument panel with silver highlights aligns with the exquisite man-machine

function button. Broad central control matches high-grade multifunctional storage space. Leather seats feature elaborate stitching. A variety of seating combinations are offered to meet a diversity of customer needs. Second and third row seating is spacious and foldable. **Intelligent performer** 2022 CS95 4WD 7 seater Outfitted with Bosch medium-range radar MMR evo14, CS95 can find forward vehicle. Adaptive Cruise Control System move-stop function with speed range from 0 to 150 km/h guarantees CS95 to activate from stationary and accelerate or decelerate intelligently. Keeping safe distance, stopping, or moving following forward vehicle and adapting varies road conditions makes CS95 easier to drive.

Advanced safety Fitted out with Bosch MPC2 Plus camera, CS95 can detect the lane line and warn drivers when deviating from the lane, preventing accidents from fatigue or distracting driving. The distance lights and passing lights can be switched intelligently when driving at night. CS95 can also automatically detect speed limit and avoid speeding when driving on the expressway. The three intelligent functions, car distance warning, forward collision warning, and collision mitigation, equipped in CS95 can avoid or ease the collision by alarm and auxiliary braking.

Endowed with great audio System CS95 is endowed with 10 Pioneer HiFi Speakers & DSP power amplifiers to deliver fresh, new audio experiences to every passenger. Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC (AGAE), which is part of Bahwan International Group, recently announced a partnership with leading international automotive group Changan Automobile Co. Ltd to bring its range of passenger vehicles to Oman including Changan EADO Plus. Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment which is part of Bahwan International Group has set up a spacious and state-of-the-art Showroom in Al Qurum and Service centre in Ghala, Muscat. AGAE has already tied up for Periodic Maintenance Services in many cities including Salalah, Sohar, Sur, Nizwa, Ibra and Barka etc. Changan Oman offers 5 years or 150,000 km manufacturer warranty on all passenger vehicles in Oman.

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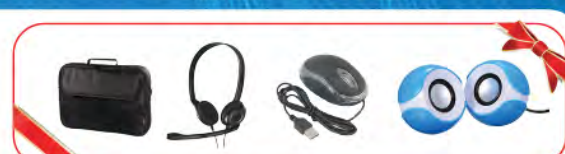
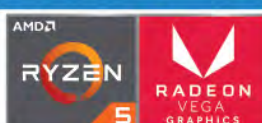
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