



HM RECEIVES THANKS CABLE FROM CHINESE PRESIDENT

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has received a cable of thanks from President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China in reply to His Majesty's greetings cable on the occasion of the Lunar New Year. In the cable, President Xi Jinping expressed his utmost thanks for His Majesty's greetings, wishing His Majesty good health and success — **ONA**



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GOLDEN MOMENTS AWAIT!

Celebrate Times of Oman's 50th anniversary with exciting events, and prizes this weekend

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Times of Oman is rolling out the red carpet for its readers as it celebrates 50 glorious years of bringing news and stories to Oman.

To mark this golden milestone, a grand celebration awaits the public at the Waterfront area in Shati Al Qurum (opposite Savannah Café) this Friday (February 21) and Saturday (February 22), offering an exciting mix of nostalgia, entertainment, and fantastic prizes!

From 5pm to 9pm, visitors can immerse themselves in a lively atmosphere filled with music, fun contests, and a chance to walk down memory lane with Times of Oman's

historic journey.

Step into 1975 and win exciting prizes!

Adding to the nostalgia, Times of Oman is encouraging visitors to dress in retro 1975 fashion for a special contest! Those who show up in vintage outfits stand a chance to win attractive prizes.

But that's not all - if you have an old Times of Oman newspaper, a resident card dated February 23, or a car plate number 1975, you can also enter exclusive giveaways!

The weekend celebrations promise engaging activities for all. Get clicked at 'Selfie Photo Booth' where guests can capture their golden moment at a specially designed booth.

Radio Booth and Live DJ



will entertain the guests at the venue. Attendees get a chance to be featured in a podcast, interview, or talk show.

At the TV Station Booth, guests can step into a digital experience that showcases how Times of Oman has evolved over the decades.

A special edition on Sunday - don't miss it!

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, Times of Oman is releasing a special issue this Sunday, featuring remarkable stories, historical milestones, and exclusive content highlighting the newspaper's journey over the decades. This is a must-read for those who cherish Oman's media landscape and its growth over the years.

Join the social media celebration

The golden jubilee celebrations don't stop at the venue. Times of Oman is launching an exciting social media contest across Instagram, Facebook, X (Twitter), and TikTok. Readers have a chance to win vouchers, subscriptions, and exclusive recognition by participating in daily challenges. Whether you're a long-time reader, a nostalgic collector, or just looking for a fun-filled weekend, this is your chance to be part of Oman's media legacy. Gather your family and friends, step into the past, and celebrate a future full of great stories!

See you at the Waterfront!

For more details, follow #TimesOfOman50 and visit @TimesOfOman on social media.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Oman ranks among world's top 29 winter sun destinations

LONDON: British paper The Sunday Times has placed the Sultanate of Oman among the 29 Winter Sun Destinations in 2025.

The classification stems from a number of factors, including the Sultanate of Oman's moderate winter temperatures averaging 23 degrees Celsius, in addition to the country's diverse natural beauty, ancient history and Arab hospitality.

The newspaper commended the unique features that make the Sultanate of Oman an ideal destination for visitors who wish to enjoy warm sunshine during winter. It also highlighted the diverse tourist activities offered by the Sultanate of Oman.

Giving examples, the paper said that adventure enthusiasts can explore the Musandam Governorate, famous for its towering hills overlooking pristine bays of clear waters. It added that tourists can go on diving trips or experience the riding of camels over sand dunes in Al Sharqiyah Sands or enjoy camping in desert sands in an environment that reflects the authentic Omani culture.



The newspaper also highlighted the exotic beauty of the Wilayat of Al Jabal Al Akhdar in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, considered a haven for those seeking tranquility and relaxation. It added that the Wilayat of Al Jabal Al Akhdar boasts a set of picturesque valleys, stunning mountain views and refreshing cool air-- in stark contrast to the hot atmosphere in surrounding areas.

The paper added that, in Muscat, visitors can explore Oman's cultural heritage by visiting mosques, traditional markets

known for the scent of frankincense or enjoying the view of the Capital city's long coastline featuring a set of luxurious resorts, including the Shangri-La Resort that stands out for its world-class services and panoramic views over the waters of the Sea of Oman.

The newspaper stressed that the Sultanate of Oman constitutes an exceptional destination that combines adventure, history and recreation under the winter sun. It pointed out that the Sultanate of Oman offers a comprehensive tourism experience that combines discovering the picturesque landscapes of the Arabian Peninsula and learning about the ancient Omani traditions, thus emerging as an unforgettable destination for travellers looking for warm winter and beautiful nature.

The Sunday Times' classification enhances the position of the Sultanate of Oman on the world tourism map. It reaffirms Oman's attractiveness as a preferred destination for tourists from all over the world. **-ONA**

OMAN PLACED 8TH IN GLOBAL INDEX FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Oman has achieved this position as a result of the efforts made by ASMED in cooperation with its partners

MADRID: The Sultanate of Oman ranked eighth globally in the Global Entrepreneurship Index 2024 out of 56 countries, after recording a score of 5.7 compared to 5.4 in 2023.

According to the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor report, the Sultanate of Oman ranked eighth in 13 main indicators, covering 9 axes of national entrepreneurship included in the report.

These indicators came in sequence as follows: financing entrepreneurs, ease of access

to funding sources, tangible government policies and priority of support, the path of government policies and taxes, government programs, the level of entrepreneurship in primary and secondary education, the level of entrepreneurship in vocational education, colleges and universities, the level of transfer of research and development, access to professional and commercial infrastructure, internal market dynamics, internal market burdens, general physical infrastructure and access to services, cultural and social norms and community support.

The Sultanate of Oman has achieved this position as a result of the efforts made by the Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (ASMED) in cooperation with its partners in the public and private sectors, through a package of strategic initiatives.

These initiatives include enhancing legislation and policies that support SMEs and start-ups by devising laws to facilitate the establishment of these institu-

tions and companies, providing procedural and incentive facilities for investment in SMEs, and improving financing for start-ups through financing programs launched by ASMED in cooperation with the Development Bank and specialised funds, in addition to facilitating start-ups' access to financing from banks and various banking and financial institutions.

Halima Rashid Al Zar'i, Chairperson of ASMED affirmed that this progress reflects the Authority's efforts to enhance the entrepreneurship system and consolidate the Sultanate of Oman's position as a supportive and stimulating environment for emerging projects.

She added that this achievement is the culmination of the integrated efforts between the public and private sectors.

It also underlined the success of policies that contribute to creating a business environment conducive to the growth of SMEs and start-ups, especially those based on innovation and modern technologies, she said. **>A2**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Discussion on women empowerment

1 Represented by the Ministry of Social Development, Oman participated in the 44th session of the Arab Women's Committee at the Arab League. Oman's delegation was headed by Dr. Laila Ahmed Al Najjar. **>A2**

MARKET Investments in food sector reviewed

2 Madayn organised an event highlighting the 'Investment Opportunities and Key Enablers in Oman's Thriving Food Sector' on the sidelines of GulfFood 2025 in Dubai, UAE. **>B1**

SPORTS Barcelona return to top of La Liga



3 Barcelona returned to the top of the Spanish league on goal difference after Robert Lewandowski's first-half penalty secured a 1-0 win over Rayo Vallecano. The Catalan club took advantage of weekend slip-ups by Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid to move onto 51 points. **>B6**



MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Arab Women’s Committee discusses empowerment

MUSCAT: Represented by the Ministry of Social Development, the Sultanate of Oman on Tuesday participated via video conferencing in the 44th session of the Arab Women’s Committee at the Arab League. Oman’s delegation was headed by Dr. Laila Ahmed Al Najjar, Minister of Social Development.

The meeting made a follow-up of the Arab Women’s Development Agenda (2023-2028) and the Agenda of Women, Security and Peace, as well as the economic and social empowerment of women in the Arab region.

The meeting also looked into cooperation with international and regional bodies, in addition to bilateral cooperation in the field of women’s empowerment.

Reading out Oman’s speech, Dr. Laila said that, during its presidency of the 43rd session of the Arab Women’s Committee, Oman focussed on enhancing institutional



integration towards the launch and implementation of initiatives and programmes that consolidate the role of women in the field of innovation, based on the “Declaration of Muscat as the capital of Arab women 2024”.

Yesterday (17 February 2025), Oman participated via video conferencing in the Arab preparatory

meeting for the 69th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

During the meeting, Oman affirmed its commitment to the provisions of agreements on human rights, including provisions on dignity for all human beings and provisions on women’s right to a safe life. -ONA

BILATERAL RELATIONS

Royal Office Minister meets Somali ambassador

MUSCAT: Gen. Sultan Mohammed Al Nu’amani, Minister of the Royal Office received in his office here yesterday Bashir Hassan Hagi, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting touched on the bilateral relations and means of enhancing joint cooperation in all areas to meet the aspirations of the two countries. -ONA



REPORT

Global Entrepreneurship Monitor

< FROM A1 It is worth noting that the annual report of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor is one of the most important specialized studies in this field, as it evaluates the performance of global econo-

mies, analyses the factors affecting the entrepreneurship system and proposes policies to enhance its growth. The efforts of Oman were lauded by the observatory’s experts during their recent visits, emphasizing the efficiency of

government policies, financing programs, business incubators and supportive legislation, which contribute to raising the contribution of SMEs to the national economy and enhancing their global competitiveness. -ONA



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BOOK LAUNCH

Book ‘Mandvi to Muscat: Indian community and shared history of India and Oman’ launched

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The book titled ‘Mandvi to Muscat: Indian Community and the Shared History of India and Oman’ was officially launched on February 16, 2025, by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India, and Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister.

They held meetings on the sidelines of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference.

The book brought out by the Embassy of India in Muscat, highlights the deep-rooted history of the Indian diaspora in Oman and the centuries-old people-to-people ties that have shaped the bilateral relationship.

The book is the culmination of the eight-month-long lecture series organised by the Embassy of India from October 2023 to May 2024.

The series, inaugurated by V. Muraleedharan, then Minister of State for External Affairs of India, in October 2023, focused on revitalising awareness about the contributions of the Indian community in strengthening India-Oman ties.

Scholars, historians, and anthropologists from India, Oman, US, and the UAE contributed to the series, while members of historical Indian families in Oman shared personal family narratives.



The book is published by Muscat Media Group.

Valuable resource

The book combines both academic perspectives and family histories narrated by members of these families, offering a valuable resource for understanding the cultural and historical contributions of the Indian community to Oman’s society.

The book reflects Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision of deeper engagement with the Indian diaspora, recognising their role in shaping India’s global connections.



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SEZAD

Oman participates in Trade for Peace Week in Geneva



GENEVA: The Sultanate of Oman participated in the high-level opening session of the Trade for Peace Week in Geneva under the theme “Building Resilience through Trade: Private Sector Engagement for Sustainable Peace.”

Idris bin Abdul Rahman Al Khanjari, Permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva delivered a statement reviewing Oman’s experience in how trade can serve as a tool for economic development, regional stability, and long-term peace.

He said that Oman stands as a significant example of how trade can foster stability, diversify economies, and open doors to sustainable progress. Oman’s approach to economic development has long been rooted in a strong understanding of the importance of trade.

He added that Oman has entered a new phase of development formalised in Oman Vision 2040.

This vision, he said, represents a significant milestone in the country’s comprehensive national development. Among its goals are economic development, social justice, and environmental protection.

A key focus is continually renewing capabilities to cope with market dynamics and future expectations.

He pointed out that according to Oman Vision 2040, it is crucial to ensure effective economic leadership with clear mandates, established authority, and a swift response to development needs.

He further said that Oman has used trade as both a tool and vehicle for development, achieving a level of stability and prosperity.

He pointed out that Oman’s leadership implemented strategies to diversify the economy,

with significant investments in infrastructure, tourism, logistics, manufacturing, and agriculture.

These sectors have not only strengthened Oman’s economy but have generated job opportunities, reduced poverty, and improved living standards.

Al Khanjari added that Oman has made significant strides in trade facilitation. The country ranks 10th globally in terms of world-class infrastructure, including seaports, airports, and state-of-the-art transportation networks. Oman’s ports, such as Sohar Port, are vital not just for Omani trade but for the entire region. This infrastructure development has made Oman a key player in regional and international trade, offering opportunities for economic growth and regional cooperation.

He pointed out that Oman has implemented investment-friendly policies that have been pivotal in attracting both foreign and domestic investors. Among the incentives Oman offers up to 100% foreign ownership, tax exemptions for up to 30 years, competitive land and service prices, customs duty exemptions, and investor residence for up to 10 years.

Further, the government has worked tirelessly to create a business climate with policies designed to encourage entrepreneurship and reduce bureaucratic obstacles.

He concluded, “Oman’s diplomatic approach to regional stability is another crucial lesson. By focusing on peacebuilding and fostering cooperative relations with its neighbors, Oman has ensured that its trade relationships are not just economic but also political and diplomatic.

Oman has used its neutral position to mediate in regional conflicts and encourage cooperation across borders”.

AWARENESS

Action plan to combat human trafficking reviewed in meeting



MUSCAT: The National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking yesterday held its regular meeting under the chairmanship of Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry for Political Affairs and Chairman of the Committee.

During the meeting, the outcomes of the Committee’s delegation’s visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain were discussed, as well

as developments in the implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking in the Sultanate of Oman (2024-2026), and the extent of achievement and observations thereon were reviewed.

In addition, the member bodies reviewed their efforts to devote awareness on the importance of combating the crime of human trafficking.

SOM RIFLE

National shooting team bags bronze

BANGKOK: The National Shooting Team won third place in the “50m Rifle” competition at the “Asian Rifle and Air Gun Shooting Championships”, winning the bronze medal in the championships being held in Bangkok, Thailand from February 9 to February 22, 2025).

Oman’s participation in the Championships formed part of the National Shooting Team’s training programme carried out by the Sultan’s Armed Forces (SAF) to enhance the level of sports performance and upgrade the technical skills of military sports teams.



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Asyad Shipping Company SAOG (under transformation) Madinat Al Sultan Qaboos, Bousher, PO Box 104, Postal Code 118 Muscat Governorate, Sultanate of Oman

Initial Public Offering of 1,041,748,856 Offer Shares

This summary has been extracted from the unofficial translation of the original Prospectus prepared in Arabic and approved by the FSA in accordance with Administrative Decision No. KH/5/2025 dated 17 February 2025.

This does not constitute an offer to sell or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer to subscribe to any of the Shares in any jurisdiction outside of Oman where such distribution is, or may be, unlawful.

General Information on the Offer and the Company

Name	Asyad Shipping Company SAOG (under transformation)
Commercial registration number	1723154
Date of registration	20 May 2003
Registered office	PO Box 104, Postal Code 118
Principal place of business/ headquarters	Madinat AlSultan Qaboos, Bousher, Muscat Governorate
Duration	Unlimited
Financial Year	Commences on 1 January and ends on 31 December each year.
Issued share capital	OMR 130,218,607 divided into 5,208,744,280 Shares with a value of Bzr.25 per Share.
Number of Shares offered for subscription (Offer Shares)	1,041,748,856 Shares, representing 20 per cent of the Company's total Issued Share Capital, subject to the Upsize Option set out below.
Issue Manager	Sohar International Bank SAOG
Joint Global Coordinators	Sohar International Bank SAOG P.O. Box 44, Postal Code 114, Ruw, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman Oman Investment Bank SAOC P.O. Box 10, Postal Code 133, Dana House, Al Khawar, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman And three international banks.

Articles of Association

The principal objectives of the Company is established is to offer end-to-end maritime transportation solutions of crude oil, liquefied natural gas, chemical products, dry bulk and containers. This includes ship owning, ship chartering and technical ship management activities. A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association is available for perusal at the registered office of the Company during business hours on any Oman business day.

Shareholding			
Name of Shareholder	Number of Shares (nominal value of Bzr.25 per Share)	% of Issued Share Capital	
Asyad Group SAOC	5,208,744,240	99.99%	
Oman Rail Company LLC	40	0.001%	
Total	5,208,744,280	100%	

Brief profile of the Selling Shareholder

Asyad Group SAOC
The Asyad Group was established in 2016 in order to provide logistics solutions and propel the development of Oman as a global logistics hub. Asyad Group is wholly owned by the Government through the Oman Investment Authority. Asyad Group is Oman's global integrated logistics provider and has over U.S.\$4.1 billion in total assets and operates in over 60 countries as at 31 December 2024. Asyad Group's subsidiaries cover four principal logistics segments: (i) marine services including shipping solutions, as well as ship maintenance, vessel repair and conversion services; (ii) ports and free zones including Asyad Ports, Port of Salalah, Port of Duqm, Sohar, Port and Free Zone, Salalah Free Zone and Khawar Port; (iii) general logistics services including Asyad Express shipping, Oman post, warehousing services, transportation services and freight forwarding; and (iv) drydock and infrastructure including Oman Rail operations, MWAASALat bus lines and ferry services).

Anchor Investors
The Company has received irrevocable commitments from the Anchor Investors, subject to the terms and conditions contained within the Anchor Investment Agreements and exercise of the Upsize Option by the Selling Shareholder, to subscribe to the Offer at the Offer Price (as defined below). The following table provides details regarding such subscriptions:

Name of Anchor Investor	Number of Offer Shares Subscribed	Subscription amount at the Offer Price (OMR)	% of Offer
Falcon Investments LLC	208,349,771	25,627,022	20%
Mars Development and Investment LLC	104,174,886	12,813,511	10%
Total	312,524,657	38,440,533	30%

Overview

The Company is one of the leading players in deep-sea transportation, offering reliable and competitive shipping solutions to its diversified portfolio of blue-chip international and local customers. The Company provides diversified maritime shipping solutions to its customers, operating through five business segments:

- Crude Shipping:** Through the Crude Shipping segment, the Company operates 12 owned VLCCs, four chartered-in Suezmaxes and two chartered-in Aframaxes transporting crude oil. The Company also has four VLCCs tankers under order. For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Crude Shipping revenue was OMR 118.6 million (U.S.\$15,381.1 million) and OMR 74.4 million (U.S.\$19,831.1 million), respectively (representing 32.6 per cent and 27.1 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Crude Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 5.8 million (U.S.\$5,923.7 million) and OMR 65.9 million (U.S.\$171.2 million), respectively.
- Products Shipping:** Through the Products Shipping segment, the Company operates 13 owned and chartered-in 19 chartered-in products tankers transporting liquid cargoes, including refined petroleum and chemical products. For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Products Shipping revenue was OMR 83.0 million (U.S.\$215.5 million) and OMR 74.2 million (U.S.\$192.8 million), respectively (representing 22.8 per cent and 27.0 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Products Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 77.0 million (U.S.\$193.9 million) and OMR 73.6 million (U.S.\$191.0 million), respectively.
- Dry Bulk Shipping:** Through the Dry Bulk Shipping segment, the Company operates four owned VLCCs, seven owned Ultramax vessels, one chartered-in Ultramax vessel, three chartered-in Supramax vessels, two chartered-in Handymax vessels and one chartered-in Kamsarmax vessel carrying raw materials, refined products and finished goods under long-term contracts with metallurgical producers. For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Dry Bulk Shipping revenue was OMR 64.8 million (U.S.\$168.3 million) and OMR 44.9 million (U.S.\$116.6 million), respectively (representing 17.8 per cent and 16.3 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Dry Bulk Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 54.2 million (U.S.\$140.7 million) and OMR 41.1 million (U.S.\$106.6 million), respectively.
- Gas Shipping:** Through the Gas Shipping segment, the Company operates two co-owned and one owned LNG carriers, one co-owned VLEC and one chartered-in MGC to transport LNG and LPG to markets around the world. The Company also has two co-LNG carriers under order. For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Gas Shipping revenue was OMR 31.6 million (U.S.\$134.0 million) and OMR 31.3 million (U.S.\$97.4 million), respectively (representing 14.2 per cent and 13.6 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Gas Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 31.1 million (U.S.\$132.7 million) and OMR 37.5 million (U.S.\$97.5 million), respectively.
- Linear Shipping:** Through the Linear Shipping segment, the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary ASL, operated a network of marine routes served by its container vessels. ASL plays a crucial role connecting Oman ports to key global markets in the GCC, China, Southeast Asia and beyond through its regional network, offering container feeder solutions to main line operators ("MLOs") and commercial liner services. In addition, ASL offers a wide range of value-added services, from storage and transportation to customs clearance services, all within a flexible, trusted integrated logistics offering that appeals, in particular, to local customers. For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Linear Shipping revenue was OMR 44.2 million (U.S.\$114.9 million) and OMR 42.7 million (U.S.\$110.8 million), respectively (representing 12.2 per cent and 15.5 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Linear Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 4.5 million (U.S.\$11.7 million) and OMR 16.9 million (U.S.\$43.8 million), respectively.

In addition, the Company also provides ship chartering, cargo and voyage management, container and feeder services, and technical ship management services through its subsidiaries, including OCC, OSMC, ASMC, ASL and ASPL, allowing it to offer full-fledged maritime transportation services of the highest industry standards. OCC and ASPL oversee the Company's expanding chartering and broking activities, encompassing not only company-owned vessels but third-party ships as well. OCC and ASPL also commercially manage several vessels that have been chartered-in to support the Company's customers. The large majority of the Company-owned vessels, including new VLCCs, LNG carriers, products tankers and dry bulk carriers, are managed in-house by OSMC.

Since its inception in 2003, the Company has supported the Omani government's vision to develop an isotopic shipping fleet catering to the maritime transportation requirements of the country's rapidly growing hydrocarbon, petrochemical and metallurgical industries. The Company is backed by the Oman Investment Authority, the investment arm of Oman, which provides access to a vast network of portfolio companies and leading national companies, making it a first-choice partner for key projects and clients in Oman. The Company's shipping operations play a crucial role in the Omani and wider GCC logistics and transportation sector, is the shipping company of choice for the Omani ecosystem and, as a sustainability champion, will help drive the decarbonisation of the Omani maritime industry.

The Company is a subsidiary of the broader Asyad Group, a national vertically integrated logistics provider with a strong network and rapid regional and international markets. As part of the Asyad Group, the Company benefits from shared resources and access to an integrated suite of complementary services, including drydock, repair and maintenance facilities, shared infrastructure (land ports, free zones, etc.), human and financial resources (treasury, human resources, procurement, communication services, legal services and IT services).

With one of the largest globally diversified fleets, the Company is able to serve over 60 countries and is well positioned to supply high-growth markets, such as Asia, the Middle East and North America. The

Company conducts its operations through its fleet of 89 vessels, of which 47 are owned or co-owned, 36 are chartered-in and 6 are currently under order, with a total aggregate capacity of more than 9.5 million DWT as at 30 September 2024. The Company's vessel fleet comprises:

- 22 crude tankers (16 VLCCs (four of which are under order), four Suezmax vessels and two Aframax vessels),
- 34 products tankers (27 MRs, two LR2s, two methanol carriers, two small tankers and one small chemical tanker),
- 18 dry bulk carriers (four VLCCs, eight Ultramax vessels, three Supramax vessels, two Handymax vessels and one Kamsarmax vessel),
- ten gas carriers (eight LNG carriers (two of which are under order), one VLEC and one MGC), and
- five container vessels (two Handymax vessels, one Handysize vessel, one Supramax vessel and one Panamax vessel).

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, the Company had revenue of OMR 363.7 million (U.S.\$946.7 million) and OMR 274.9 million (U.S.\$713.9 million), respectively, TCE Revenue of OMR 282.0 million (U.S.\$732.5 million) and OMR 236.1 million (U.S.\$613.3 million), respectively, Adjusted EBITDA of OMR 184.0 million (U.S.\$478.0 million) and OMR 152.9 million (U.S.\$423.0 million), respectively, and profit of OMR 39.5 million (U.S.\$102.6 million) and OMR 45.9 million (U.S.\$119.2 million), respectively.

Investing in and holding the Shares involves financial risk. Prospective investors in the Shares should carefully review all of the information contained in this Prospectus and should pay particular attention to the following risks associated with an investment in the Company and the Shares, which should be considered together with all other information contained in this Prospectus. If one or more of the following risks were to arise, the Company's business, financial condition, cash flows and results of operations or the price of the Shares could be materially and adversely affected, and investors could lose all or part of their investment. The risks set out below may not be exhaustive and do not necessarily include all of the risks associated with an investment in the Company and the Shares. Additional risks and uncertainties not currently known to the Company or which the Company currently deems immaterial may arise in the future and may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, cash flows and results of operations, prospects or the price of the Shares.

Board of Directors

The current Board of the Company is as set out below and its members' term of office is due to expire at the next AGM of the Company.

S/N	Name	Position	Independent/Non-Independent
1	Abdulrahman Al Hatmi	Chairman	Non-Independent
2	Muhsin Alvimston	Deputy Chairman	Non-Independent
3	David Stockley	Board Member	Independent
4	Selim Khalaf	Board Member	Non-Independent
5	Peder Sondergaard	Board Member	Independent

Subscription Conditions and Procedures

Offer Structure

Based on the Price Range, this Offer is being offered to Category I Applicants through a bookbuild offering as described in more detail in the "Chapter X0 – Bookbuilding (how to)" and to Category II Applicants at the Offer Price. The Offer Price is the final price at which Offer Shares will be issued and allotted pursuant to the terms of this Prospectus. The Offer Price will be decided by the Selling Shareholder in consultation with the Joint Global Coordinators, which will be within the Price Range, as the Pricing Date.

Category I Offer (Large Retail / Institutional)	Anchor Investors	Category II Offer (Small Retail) (For Individual Applicants)	Category II Offer (Large Retail) (For Individual Applicants)
Offer Size	458,796,985 Offer Shares	312,524,657 Offer Shares	130,218,607 Offer Shares
Percentage of Offer Size	45%	30%	12.5%
Basics of Allotment	Allotments to Category I Applicants will be determined by the Selling Shareholder in consultation with the Joint Global Coordinators. See section "Basics of Allotment" for more details.	Allotment confirmed by the Selling Shareholder before the commencement of the Offer. Subscription and Sale for more details.	Proportionate. See section "Basics of Allotment" for more details. Category II Applicants (large retail) Shares shall be distributed equally among pro-rata basis.
Minimum Subscription	100,000 Offer Shares and thereafter in multiples of 100 Offer Shares	N/A	1,000 Offer Shares and thereafter in multiples of 100 Offer Shares
Maximum Subscription	No maximum subscription size	312,524,657 Offer Shares (30% of the Offer Size)	81,400 Offer Shares and thereafter in multiples of 100 Offer Shares
Terms of Payment	Applicant must make payment to the designated bank account of one of the Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or the Collection Agents at least two Oman business days prior to the Settlement Date. The Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or Collection Agents will transfer the subscription amount due against the Offer Shares allotted, at least one Oman business day prior to the Settlement Date.	Anchor Investors must make payment to the designated bank account of one of the Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or the Collection Agents at least one Oman business day prior to the Settlement Date. The Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or Collection Agents will transfer the subscription amount due against the Offer Shares allotted, at least one Oman business day prior to the Settlement Date.	100% of the Category II (small retail) Application (large retail) Money to be paid at the time of submission of the Application

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Crude Shipping revenue was OMR 118.6 million (U.S.\$15,381.1 million) and OMR 74.4 million (U.S.\$19,831.1 million), respectively (representing 32.6 per cent and 27.1 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Crude Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 5.8 million (U.S.\$5,923.7 million) and OMR 65.9 million (U.S.\$171.2 million), respectively.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Products Shipping revenue was OMR 83.0 million (U.S.\$215.5 million) and OMR 74.2 million (U.S.\$192.8 million), respectively (representing 22.8 per cent and 27.0 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Products Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 77.0 million (U.S.\$193.9 million) and OMR 73.6 million (U.S.\$191.0 million), respectively.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Dry Bulk Shipping revenue was OMR 64.8 million (U.S.\$168.3 million) and OMR 44.9 million (U.S.\$116.6 million), respectively (representing 17.8 per cent and 16.3 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Dry Bulk Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 54.2 million (U.S.\$140.7 million) and OMR 41.1 million (U.S.\$106.6 million), respectively.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Gas Shipping revenue was OMR 31.6 million (U.S.\$134.0 million) and OMR 31.3 million (U.S.\$97.4 million), respectively (representing 14.2 per cent and 13.6 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Gas Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 31.1 million (U.S.\$132.7 million) and OMR 37.5 million (U.S.\$97.5 million), respectively.

For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Linear Shipping revenue was OMR 44.2 million (U.S.\$114.9 million) and OMR 42.7 million (U.S.\$110.8 million), respectively (representing 12.2 per cent and 15.5 per cent, respectively, of the Company's revenue). For the year ended 31 December 2023 and the nine months ended 30 September 2024, Linear Shipping TCE Revenue was OMR 4.5 million (U.S.\$11.7 million) and OMR 16.9 million (U.S.\$43.8 million), respectively.

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Prohibitions with Regard to the Applications for Subscription

The following persons shall not be permitted to subscribe to the Offer:

- Sole proprietorship establishments – The owners of sole proprietorship establishments may only submit Applications in their personal names.
- Trust accounts – Applicants registered under trust accounts may only submit Applications in their personal names (except as detailed below).

- Multiple Applications – An Applicant may not submit more than one Application.
- Joint Applications – Applicants may not submit applications in the name of more than one individual (except on behalf of legal heirs).
- Selling Shareholder – The selling shareholder of the Company may not submit an Application.

- Related Parties – The related parties of the Company cannot participate in the Category I offer except where such relationship is due to common shareholding or control exercised by the units of the common shareholder or the Government or their primary activity is investment related.
- Any Applications not complying with the above criteria may be rejected without contacting the relevant prospective investor, although Applications by trust accounts may be accepted in the Offer, at the discretion of the Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or the Collection Agents (as applicable). If they are not accepted, the Government or their primary activity is investment related.

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Subscription on Behalf of Minor Children (For Category II Offer)

For the purpose of this Offer, a minor under 18 years of age on the date of submission of an Application will be defined as a minor.

Only a father may subscribe on behalf of his minor children.

If an Applicant is made on behalf of a minor by any person other than the minor's father, the person submitting the Application will be required to attach a valid Sharia (Legal) Power of Attorney issued by the competent authorities in Oman authorising him or her to deal in the funds of the minor through such purchase and investment.

Applicant's Number with MCD
Any Applicant who subscribes for the Offer Shares must have an account and Investor Number with the MCD. Any Applicant may apply to obtain an Investor Number and open an account by completing the "MCD Application". This may be obtained from the MCD's Head Office or its website at www.mcd.om, or from broker/dealer companies licensed by the CCA.

Offer Period
The Category I Offer Period will commence on 20 February 2025 and end on 27 February 2025. The Category II Offer Period will commence on 20 February 2025 and end on 26 February 2025.

Category I Offer
45 per cent of Offer Shares (i.e. 468,796,985 Offer Shares) shall be reserved for subscription by Category I Applicants.

Subscription and Allocation Process for Category I Applicants
Category I Applicants may place Applications with any of the Joint Bookrunners, the Issue Manager or the Collection Agents during official banking hours prior to or on the Category I Offer Closing Date. Applications, once submitted, are binding and can only be modified once by submitting an Application Revision Form for a higher quantity of Shares, a higher price or both, on or before the Category I Offer Closing Date.

Applications shall contain a maximum of three price and quantity combinations (bids). Category I Applicants shall be allocated on a pro-rata basis from all the bids in the Application. Category I Offer Period will commence on 20 February 2025 and end on 27 February 2025. The Category II Offer Period will commence on 20 February 2025 and end on 26 February 2025.

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Category I Subscription Price Range: Bzs 117 to Bzs 123 per Offer Share Category II Subscription Price: Bzs 123 per Offer Share

Category I Offer Period: 20 February 2025 to 27 February 2025

Category II Offer Period: 20 February 2025 to 26 February 2025

The Category II Application Money will be paid by the Investor as per the terms of the E-IPO Mechanism set out in the Collection Agents' and the MCD will abide by the responsibilities and obligations set out under applicable law and by the directives and regulations issued by the FSA.

MCD E-IPO Platform

Applicants can provide their particulars in the E-IPO Platform on the MCD website (www.mcd.om). After verifying all the particulars, the Applicant will need to print the E-IPO Application. The Applicant needs to submit the E-IPO Application along with supporting documents and Category I Application Money to one of the Collection Agents. The Applicant will need to contact its respective Collection Agent for further guidance on the E-IPO channel provided by the respective Collection Agent. The Category II Application Money will be paid by the Applicant as per the terms of the E-IPO collection process utilised by each Collection Agent. The Collection Agent will verify the supporting documents and confirm the offering of the Category I Application Money, validate the E-IPO Application in the E-IPO Platform and share a copy of the acknowledgement of the E-IPO Application with each Applicant. The Applicant needs to ensure that they receive a copy of the acknowledgement from the Collection Agent as a valid proof of their Application.

Applications

The Application must be completed in full in accordance with the instructions contained in this Prospectus. Incomplete Applications may be rejected.

Only a father may subscribe on behalf of his minor children. Applications once submitted cannot be cancelled by the Applicant. Submission of a second Application to either the same or to another Collection Agent will be treated as such investor having submitted multiple applications and may result in all Applications submitted by the investor being rejected at any point in time prior to the allotment of Shares in the Offer.

Application Money

Along with submission of the Application, all Category II Applicants must make a payment of 100 per cent of the subscription amount is calculated as the total number of Offer Shares applied for multiplied by Bzs 123 per Share (the "Category II Application Money").

Terms of Payment for Category II

The Collection Agents will open an escrow account for the collection of the Category I Application Money.

This account will be managed by each Collection Agent, who will within the next two Oman business days after the end of the Category I Application Money transfer the collection proceeds to the common escrow account maintained by the MCD.

Each Category II Applicant can pay by cash, drawing a demand draft issued by a bank in Oman or instruct an account transfer for the amount payable at the time of submission of the Application.

Refunds

Category II Applicants will be allotted Offer Shares at the Offer Price. The Offer Price will be determined by the outcome of the bookbuilding offering to Category I Applicants. Any refunds due to a Category II Applicant will be calculated based on the difference between the Category II Application Money paid by such Category I Applicant, and (ii) the number of Offer Shares allotted to such Category II Applicant multiplied by the Offer Price.

Particulars of the Bank Account of the Category II Applicants

OMAN WORLD

MEETING

Inspector General of Police meets officials in Tehran

TEHRAN: Lt.Gen. Hassan bin Mohsin Al Shraiqi, Inspector General of Police and Customs, yesterday held bilateral meetings with Iranian officials as part of his official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meetings, Lt.Gen. Al Shraiqi discussed ways of enhancing joint cooperation in the fields of security and police matters, in addition to exchanging views about other issues of common concern. -**ONA**



CANADA

Toronto airport closes two runways after plane crash

TORONTO: A Delta Airlines plane crashed while attempting to land at Toronto Pearson International Airport on Monday, flipping upside down on the snowy ground. As a result, two runways at the airport will remain closed as officials investigate the incident, according to the airport's CEO Deborah Flint, CNN reported.

While addressing a press briefing, Deborah Flint stated that following the crash, all arrivals and departures on the airport's three other runways were immediately halted but were reopened by around 5 p.m. local time.

The remaining two runways will stay closed while an investigation takes place for the "rest of tonight and into the next several days," Flint said.

Flint also reported that 17 pas-

sengers were injured in the crash. Out of the 76 passengers on board, 22 were Canadian, while the rest were from other countries.

Earlier, Delta had said that 18 passengers were injured in the crash, adding that there were no fatalities.

In a post on X, Delta said, "Delta Connection flight 4819, operated by Endeavor Air using a CRJ-900 aircraft, was involved in a single-aircraft accident at Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) at around 2:15 p.m. ET* on Monday. The flight originated from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP)."

It added, "Initial reports indicate there are no fatalities and 18 customers with injuries have been transported to area hospitals. Our primary focus is taking care of those impacted."

The statement further said, "Delta activated its Passenger Inquiry Center for family and loved ones of customers involved in today's accident so they can connect with Delta for more information. In Canada, these individuals may reach out via 1-866-629-4775. In the United States, they may connect using 1-800-997-5454."

Following the crash, Delta CEO Ed Bastian said, "The hearts of the entire global Delta family are with those affected by today's incident at Toronto-Pearson International Airport. I want to express my thanks to the many Delta and Endeavor team members and the first responders on site. We are working to confirm the details and will share the most current information on <http://news.delta.com> as soon as it becomes available."



US STATE DEPARTMENT



US and Russia agree to start push towards peace in Ukraine

RIYADH: The United States and Russia agreed on Tuesday to address issues affecting their relationship and to start finding ways to end Russia's war in Ukraine.

The State Department said that this effort is still in the early stages.

"One phone call followed by one meeting is not sufficient to establish enduring peace," department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce said after meetings in Saudi Arabia.

US now understands Moscow's position 'better,' Lavrov said

Washington understood Moscow's position "better" following Monday's high-level talks in Riyadh, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said.

"The conversation, I believe, was very useful. We did not just listen but heard each other, and I have reason to believe the American side has better understood our position," said Lavrov, who headed the Russian delegation in the first talks between the two world powers since the 2022 in-

vasion of Ukraine. The two countries agreed to establish a process for settling the Ukraine conflict and to remove barriers for diplomatic missions, Lavrov added.

The Russian top diplomat also touched on the issue of NATO expansion, which Moscow had cited as one of its reasons for invading Ukraine. He called it a "direct threat" to Russia and stressed that he communicated to the US delegates that any NATO troops' deployment to Ukraine, even under other flags, would be unacceptable.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said he was "convinced" that Moscow was willing to engage in a "serious process" to end the war, adding that Washington aimed for a "fair" and "sustainable" solution.

State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce said in a statement that the meeting was "an important step forward" toward peace.

Rubio said that European nations would have to be involved in

talks on ending the war, and that "extraordinary opportunities existed to partner" with Russia.

US-Russia talks could reshape European security, warns ECFR expert

The talks in Riyadh might reshape European security, Jana Puglierin, a Senior Policy Fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), warned.

"Washington has begun negotiations with Russia over the heads of Ukraine and the other Europeans, and there are fears that these will not only be about ending the war, but also about the future European security architecture," she said.

Puglierin said US President Donald Trump could make concessions previously deemed implausible, including on US and NATO troops stationed in Eastern Europe and further NATO enlargement.

"Europe risks standing powerless on the sidelines as the foundations of European security collapse." -**nw**

Audited statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024		2024 RO	2023* RO	1 Jan 2023* RO
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	324,767	380,316	509,331	-
Intangible assets	98,081	118,728	-	-
Finance lease receivable	47,361,992	51,555,627	55,397,967	-
Right-of-use assets	4,436,474	4,833,558	96,984	-
Derivative financial instruments	1,272,927	1,143,322*	1,432,109*	-
Total non-current assets	53,494,241	58,031,551	57,436,271	-
Current assets				
Derivative financial instruments	404,750	254,361*	318,609*	-
Finance lease receivable	4,216,042	3,858,811	3,556,639	-
Trade and other receivables	1,618,871	1,495,964	1,507,347	-
Amount due from related parties	81,258	251,417	187,852	-
Cash and cash equivalents	1,841,767	1,764,895	1,988,530	-
Total current assets	8,162,688	7,625,448	7,558,977	-
TOTAL ASSETS	61,656,929	65,656,999	64,995,248	-
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity				
Share capital	9,780,216	9,780,216	9,780,216	-
Legal reserve	2,734,740	2,675,153	2,607,174	-
Retained earnings	3,278,887	4,209,456	5,064,853	-
Cumulative changes in fair values	1,199,669	773,711*	976,537*	-
Total equity	16,989,512	17,438,536	18,428,780	-
Liabilities				
Non-current liabilities				
Long term loan	30,001,239	33,385,049	36,605,595	-
Derivative financial instruments	202,655	386,729*	492,321*	-
Deferred revenue	3,833,938	3,720,277*	3,603,009*	-
Deferred revenue	250,289	262,421	274,028	-
Employees' end of service benefit	33,726	101,962	103,088	-
Lease liabilities	4,264,277	4,590,002	35,449	-
Total non-current liabilities	38,585,524	42,458,439	41,113,480	-
Current liabilities				
Long term loan	3,473,179	3,306,261	3,171,443	-
Derivative financial instruments	64,247	88,707*	109,530*	-
Deferred revenue	12,132	11,607	10,623	-
Lease liabilities	325,725	312,038	61,700	-
Trade and other payables	1,134,453	991,916	1,146,043	-
Taxation	34,548	-	-	-
Amount due to related parties	1,033,609	1,049,515	953,649	-
Total current liabilities	6,077,893	5,760,044	5,452,988	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	44,663,417	48,218,483	46,566,468	-
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	61,656,929	65,656,999	64,995,248	-
Net asset value per share (RO)	0.174	0.178*	0.188	-
Audited statement of Profit or Loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2024		2024 RO	2023 RO	
Revenue	12,670,184	12,822,780		
Cost of sales	(8,777,282)	(8,623,357)		
GROSS PROFIT	3,892,902	4,199,423		
Administrative and general expenses	(730,636)	(744,713)		
Reversal of expected credit loss	22,991	17,301		
PROFIT FROM OPERATION	3,185,257	3,472,011		
Finance costs	(2,605,808)	(2,749,639)		
Finance income	89,661	110,283		
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	609,110	832,655		
Taxation	(73,040)	(153,061)		
PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	596,070	679,594		
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME, NET OF TAX				
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:				
Fair value of the cash flow hedge adjustment – gross	1,094,662	326,283*		
Reclassification to profit or loss – gross	(593,535)	(564,902)		
Deferred tax on fair value adjustment	(75,169)	35,793*		
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR, NET OF TAX	425,958	(202,826)*		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	1,022,028	476,768		
BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE (RO)	0.0061	0.0069		

Thank you and kind regards,
Mr. Denis Le-Maout
Chairman



سلطنة عُمان
وزارة النقل والاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Transport, Communications and
Information Technology

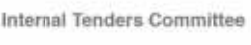
إعلان مناقصة Tender Notice

The Internal Tenders Committee at the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology invites for the Following Tenders:

Tender Number	Tender Name	Date of Publishing	Last date to Purchase Tender Document	Submission Date	Companies who should participate in this Tender	Document Price
MT CIT/ 25/2025	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS FOR AL MOUJ STREET AND 18TH NOVEMBER STREET PROJECT	18-02-2025	25-02-2025	11-03-2025	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF TENDER BOARD (FIRST & SECOND CLASS)	(27/500) TWENTY- SEVEN OMANI RIALS AND FIVE HUNDRED BAISA (LOCAL, REGIONAL) (10/-) TEN OMANI RIAL FOR SME NON-REFUNDABLE
MT CIT/ 24/2025	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT FOR SLOPE PROTECTION SYSTEM FOR LOCATION 10, MADHA HAJR BANI HAMID ROAD	17-02-2025	03-02-2025	31-03-2025	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF TENDER BOARD (EXCELLENT & FIRST CLASS)	(150/-) ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY OMANI RIALS (LOCAL, REGIONAL) (15/-) FIFTEEN OMANI RIAL FOR SME NON-REFUNDABLE
MT CIT/ 22/2025	SPACE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM 2025	18-02-2025	27-02-2025	19-03-2025	EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND REGISTERED WITH THE SECRETARIAT GENERAL OF TENDER BOARD (EXCELLENT & FIRST & SECOND CLASS	(25/-) TWENTY-FIVE OMANI RIAL FOR LOCAL COMPANIES (10/-) TEN OMANI RIAL (FOR SME) NON-REFUNDABLE

Interested Companies registered with the Secretariat General of 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 documents. Tenders should be submitted online on given website.

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 24402200 e-mail: etenderhd@mtcit.gov.om



**HONGQI**

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BILATERAL TIES

India, Qatar aim to double annual trade in five years

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with Qatar Emir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani on Tuesday, with the two leaders discussing trade, investment and energy and recalling historic trade linkages and deep-rooted people-to-people ties between the two countries.

PM Modi appreciated the Emir of Qatar for bringing a large delegation of top Qatari business for business on this visit.

India and Qatar have also signed an agreement to elevate the bilateral relationship to a strategic partnership.

Addressing a special briefing, Secretary (CPV & OIA) in the Ministry of External Affairs, Arun Kumar Chatterjee, said the two sides have to set a target to double the bilateral trade in the next five years.

He said Qatar Emir is accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising ministers, senior officials and business leaders.

“To elevate the relationship to a strategic partnership, India and Qatar have signed an agreement in this regard today. Trade, investment and energy were among

the major topics of discussion between the two leaders today. The trade today between India and Qatar is about \$14 billion annually. Both sides have agreed to set a target to double this in the next 5 years,” he added.

The senior MEA official said that Qatar is also an important partner for investments in India.

Qatar’s sovereign wealth fund, Qatar Investment Authority currently has about \$1.5 billion FDI in India...both leaders identified a number of areas in which Qatar Investment Authority can increase investments in India...Prime Minister appreciated His Highness Qatar for bringing a large dedication of top Qatari business for business on this visit. Joint Business Forum was held under the Co-chairmanship of the Ministers of Commerce and Industry of India and Qatar, in which top industrialists, companies and institutions of both countries held very productive interactions,” he said.

Qatar’s Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad AL Thani arrived in Delhi on Monday on a two-day state visit. — **ANI**

UNRWA says agency’s collapse will create a very dangerous vacuum

UNRWA faces major operational challenges after the Knesset decisions came into effect, as it was forced to evacuate its headquarters in East Jerusalem



major donors.

Lazzarini said that the collapse of the agency would create a dangerous vacuum in the provision of basic services, which would create “fertile ground for exploitation and extremism,” which constitutes a threat to peace and stability in the region and beyond.

He added that UNRWA faces major operational challenges after the Knesset decisions came into effect, as it was forced to evacuate its headquarters in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood in East Jerusalem, while its international employees were expelled from the occupied West Bank.

He pointed out that the courage and commitment of the Agency’s Palestinian employees kept UNRWA schools and health clinics open to provide essential services to Palestinian refugees.

Lazzarini explained that UNRWA operations in the Gaza Strip continue through its local and international staff, whose entry into or exit from Palestine is no longer facilitated by Israel.

He continued: “It is unclear to what extent our ability to operate will be further restricted by the

ban on contact between UNRWA representatives and Israeli officials, but the Agency will remain and will continue to implement its mandate until it is prevented from doing so.”

The UNRWA Commissioner-General stated that the Agency continues to play a crucial role in addressing the enormous needs of the people of the Gaza Strip, stressing that reducing its operations now is futile and would sabotage Gaza’s recovery and political transition plans.

He said: “Time is running out to preserve UNRWA operations, and decisive intervention is urgently required.”

Lazzarini stressed that there is no alternative that can provide public services to Palestinian refugees in the Palestinian territories, and stressed the importance of allowing UNRWA By gradually ending its mandate within the framework of a political process such as the two-state solution, and transferring responsibilities to capable and prepared Palestinian institutions. — **WAPA**



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SPORTS

Kenjige spins USA to huge win

Duleep Mendis' men slumped to their lowest ODI total of 65 in the concluding game of the WCL 2 tri-series on Tuesday

MUSCAT: Oman's spin-heavy strategy backfired as Nosthush Kenjige's career-best spell tore through their batting lineup, leading the USA to a facile 57-run victory in the ICC World Cup League (WCL) 2 at the Oman Cricket Academy ground on Tuesday.

The left-arm spinner's five-wicket haul (5-11) proved decisive as Oman collapsed for just 65, their lowest-ever ODI total, while chasing a modest 123-run target. Previously, Oman's lowest ODI score was 81 against Namibia in Windhoek in April 2019.

With this win, the USA avenged their earlier defeat against Oman in the tri-series and strengthened their position at the top of the points table with 22 points from 16 matches.

Duleep Mendis' men remained second with 18 at the end of the tri-



series, which also featured Namibia (12 points from 16 games, while Canada, with four games in hand, are third on 16 points.

On Tuesday, batting first, the USA struggled early, losing four wickets inside the first 10 overs. Oman's spinners, led by Shakeel Ahmed (3-20) and Aamir Kaleem (2-22), ran through the top order, reducing the visitors to 31-5.

However, Milind Kumar (47 off 82, 6x4) held the innings together with two crucial partnerships. He added 30 runs with Aaron Jones (16) for the sixth

wicket and another 33 with Sanjay Krishnamurthi (16) for the seventh, helping the USA post 122 before they were bowled out in 35.3 overs.

Oman's spinners dominated the innings, with nine of the ten wickets falling to them with Kenjige run out.

Shakeel Ahmed finished as the leading wicket-taker of the tri-series with 13 scalps. Samay Shrivastava (2/41), Siddharth Bukkapatnam (1/11), and Jay Odedra (1/23) also played key roles in restricting the USA.

Oman's batting collapse
Chasing 123, Oman struggled from the outset as both openers, including skipper Jatinder Singh (7), fell cheaply. Hammad Mirza (29 off 43) was the only batter to offer resistance, but he found little support.

Oman's highest partnership was a modest 22-run stand between Mirza and Hashir Dafedar (9) for the third wicket. The next-best was a 16-run fourth-wicket stand with Sufyan Mehmood (0).

Kenjige's relentless accuracy triggered a dramatic collapse, as

Oman crumbled from 57-5 to 65 all out, losing their last five wickets for just eight runs. He dismissed Vinayak Shukla (5) and then sent back Mirza to leave Oman at 60-6.

He swiftly ran through the tail, removing Shakeel Ahmed (0), Jay Odedra (0), and Siddharth Bukkapatnam (0) within three overs. Odedra and Bukkapatnam fell within three balls in Kenjige's eighth over. Kenjige was well supported by the USA's spin attack, with Yasir Mohammad (2-10), Milind Kumar (2-17), and Harmeet Singh (1-25) contributing to Oman's downfall.

Kumar was adjudged the player of the match for his all-round performance.

Meanwhile, Oman's Jiten Ramanandi made his ODI debut on Tuesday, receiving his first cap from skipper Jatinder Singh.

Brief scores: USA 122 in 35.3 overs (Milind Kumar 47, Aaron Jones 16, Sanjay Krishnamurthi 16; Shakeel Ahmed 3/20, Aamir Kaleem 2/22, Samay Shrivastava 2/41) beat Oman 65 in 25.3 overs (Hammad Mirza 29; Nosthush Kenjige 5/11, Milind Kumar 2/17, Yasir Mohammad 2/10).

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BEACH GAMES LOGO UNVEILED

Third edition of GCC Beach Games from April 5 to feature 8 sports disciplines

MUSCAT: Muscat is set to welcome athletes from across the Gulf when the third edition of the GCC Beach Games kicks off on April 5, 2025.

Hosted by the Oman Olympic Committee (OOC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth, the tournament will run until April 11.

Athletes from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman will compete in eight disciplines: beach football, beach volleyball, beach handball, open-water swimming, sailing, tent pegging, beach athletics, and paragliding.

The tournament will feature competitions at various coastal and sporting venues.

Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex will host beach football (April 7-11) and beach handball (April 5-11) while Muscat's beaches will host beach volleyball, beach athletics (April 8-10), and open-water swimming (April 9-11).

Sailing (April 6-10) will be held on Muscat coastlines while tent pegging (April 8-10) will be held at the Al Rahba Farm. Al Hail Beach will be the venue for paragliding (April 5-7).

Taha bin Sulaiman Al Kishry, Secretary-General of OOC,

emphasised Oman's strategic advantages in hosting beach sports events.

He said: "Oman's extensive coastline and unique geographical setting make it an ideal hub for hosting major international beach sports competitions. The GCC Beach Games reflect our commitment to strengthening sports cooperation among Gulf nations and advancing beach sports to global standards."

Beyond competition, sports tourism remains a key focus. "This event highlights Oman's potential as a prime destination for beach sports while serving as a platform for our national teams to prepare for regional and international championships," Al Kishry added.

Enhancing the tournament's profile, organisers have launched a comprehensive promotional and marketing campaign to elevate the tournament's visibility.

The official GCC Beach Games logo, unveiled at a press conference on Tuesday, embodies the spirit of competition and Oman's natural landscape. Featuring elements representing the sea, mountains, beaches, and sky, the design reflects the unity of sport and culture.

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES
The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by April 2025 reaching \$77.90, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by 34 cents from the price of Monday, which was \$77.56. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER
The MSX index closed at 4,468.58 points, up by 0.07% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.10% at 415.38 points. Al Madina Takaful, up 2.38%, was the top gainer while Al Omaniya Non convertible Bonds 2020, down 6.25%, was the top lose.

10-year sale and purchase pact inked for LNG deliveries

Under this agreement, Oman LNG will supply Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to Mercuria on a Free on Board (FOB) basis, with deliveries (800,000 metric tonnes per annum) set to commence in April 2025



MUSCAT: Oman LNG announced the signing of a 10-year Sale and Purchase Agreement (SPA) with Mercuria, a leading Switzerland-based trading company. Under this agreement, Oman LNG will supply Liquefied Natural

Gas (LNG) to Mercuria on a Free on Board (FOB) basis, with deliveries (800,000 metric tonnes per annum) set to commence in April 2025. The signing ceremony marks a significant milestone in Oman LNG's commitment to delivering

reliable and sustainable energy to global markets. By securing this long-term partnership, Oman LNG reinforces its strategic role as a key supplier of LNG, contributing to the stability and diversification of global energy supplies.

Mercuria, a globally recognized trading company, is active in a broad range of energy markets, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, natural gas, power, biodiesel, base metals, and agricultural products. This agree-

ment with Oman LNG further strengthens Mercuria's position in the LNG trading landscape and enhances its ability to meet the growing energy demands of its customers worldwide. Speaking at the signing cer-

emony, Hamed Mohammed Al Nu'amani, CEO of Oman LNG said: "We are delighted to formalize this long-term agreement with Mercuria, reinforcing Oman LNG's reputation as a reliable LNG supplier while also expanding across a wider portfolio of partners and market access. This continues to reflect our commitment to delivering energy solutions that support global energy security and sustainability." On his turn, Marco Dunand, CEO of Mercuria said: "We are excited to establish this partnership with Oman LNG, which aligns with our strategy of expanding our LNG portfolio and meeting the evolving energy needs of our customers. We look forward to a successful collaboration that brings value to both parties." The agreement underscores Oman LNG's ongoing efforts to expand its reach in international markets while ensuring the sustainable and efficient supply of LNG. With a strong commitment to operational excellence, Oman LNG continues to play a pivotal role in contributing to Oman's economic growth and strengthening its position in the global energy sector. - **ONA**

Oman launches digital platform to track and evaluate green hydrogen ecosystem readiness progress

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's Green Hydrogen Ecosystem Readiness Steering Committee, chaired by Eng. Salim bin Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals and Chairman of Hydrom, has launched a dedicated digital gH2 Ecosystem Readiness monitoring platform called 'gHad'. The Hydrom-led initiative is designed to track sector-wide progress, enhance collaboration, and provide real-time data-driven insights on key initiatives supporting the development of Oman's green hydrogen strategy. The platform builds on the outcomes of the Ecosystem Readiness Lab conducted in September 2024, which identified 26 key initiatives designed to deliver Oman's 2030 green hydrogen production targets. By digitalizing sector-wide coordination, 'gHad' will move Oman's hydrogen strategy from planning to structured execution across five key focus areas including permits, contractors, workforce development, logistics, and local content. Eng. Abdulaziz Said Al Shidhani, Managing Director of Hydrom said: "Ensuring the readiness of all supporting sectors is critical to delivering Oman's green hydrogen ambitions."



'gHad' is an integral tool to our joint success, providing us with a one-stop-shop to align efforts, address challenges early, and create the right conditions for large-scale project execution. With clear visibility on sector progress, we can support decision-making, strengthen investor confidence, and position Oman as a competitive player in the global hydrogen economy." 'gHad' will serve as a centralized system, integrating key public and private sector stakeholders across multiple sectors, including government entities, infrastructure providers, workforce development institutions, local industries, and regulatory bodies. As Oman progresses towards becoming a global green hydrogen hub, the platform will play a pivotal role in enhancing governance, increasing transparency, and driving data-backed decision making.

ARA Petroleum sponsors 8th Indian Ocean Conference

MUSCAT: ARA Petroleum (ARA), the energy producing arm of The Zubair Corporation, participated as a sponsor in the 8th edition of the Indian Ocean Conference, held in Muscat from February 16-17, 2025, at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. As a key sponsor, ARA Petroleum showcased its cutting-edge energy solutions and strategic initiatives through a dedicated exhibition booth, highlighting its contributions to the energy sector both locally and internationally. The event's opening ceremony was followed by a visit to ARA's booth by Sayyid Badr bin Hamad al Busaidi, Oman's Foreign Minister, and Eng. Saeed bin Hamoud al-Maawali, Minister of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology, who engaged with ARA representatives on the company's expanding op-



erations and innovations. "ARA Petroleum is committed to driving sustainable energy advancements and fostering regional partnerships that support economic and environmental progress," said Dr. Omar Al Jaaidi, Vice President at ARA Petroleum. "Our sponsorship and active participation in the Indian Ocean Conference reflect our dedication to contributing meaningfully to the evolving energy landscape."

Madayn promotes Oman's food industry to global investors in Dubai



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn) organised an event highlighting the 'Investment Opportunities and Key Enablers in Oman's Thriving Food Sector' on the sidelines of its participation in Gulfood 2025 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The event attracted a significant gathering of CEOs, investors, and industry leaders from the global food sector, providing a platform for insightful discussions and networking opportunities. Speaking at the event, Eng. Dawood bin Salim Al Hadabi, CEO of Madayn, said, "This gathering presents a gateway to enhance connections with existing partners while showcasing the investment incentives and services we offer to potential investors, as well as spotlighting the high-quality products and remarkable capabilities of Omani businesses participating in Gulfood 2025." Al Hadabi added, "The food manufacturing sector is a cornerstone of economic growth and an essential part of daily life. To support its sustainability and growth, we have dedicated well-equipped spaces within our industrial cities as we continue to introduce strategic initiatives that encourage innovation and expansion. Today, Madayn is home to 85 food industry projects, representing a cumulative investment volume touching OMR150 million. These projects



span over 1.3 million square metres and provide employment opportunities for more than 3,600 talented individuals." He also pointed out that one of Madayn's latest adding-value initiatives for the food sector is the 'Green Madayn' project, developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources in the Sultanate of Oman. "This initiative focuses on establishing greenhouses within a number of Madayn's industrial cities to support Oman's food sector, promote entrepreneurship, and enhance food security. 'Green Madayn' project is designed to empower local agricultural production and enhance trade balance through reducing import dependence and driving export growth," Al Hadabi elaborated. On his part, Khalid Al Salehi, Director General of Marketing and Commercial Affairs at Madayn, highlighted Madayn's commitment to developing world class business cities while preserving a distinct Omani identity. He emphasised that Madayn serves as a key government body, driving comprehensive and sustainable economic and social development through dynamic public-private partnerships. "By establishing and managing fully integrated business cities that are technologically advanced, highly responsive to market shifts, and environmentally sustainable, Madayn is dedicated to creating an ecosystem that meets the evolving

needs of investors and industries," Al Salehi added. Al Salehi also spotlighted the investment opportunities available in the food sector within Madayn's industrial cities, outlining the wide range of services and incentives provided to investors and business owners. These incentives include lease period for up to 30 years, renewable for the same period; right to waive the lease right for the remaining period of the contract; right to sell constructions and buildings on the leased land; right to involve partners in the lease contract; fair evaluation of buildings and facilities upon the termination of the lease contract; availability of developed and equipped lands with basic services (water, electricity, telecom, roads); and transparent legal frameworks illustrating rights and obligations; and punctuality in service delivery. He added that Madayn also offers a range of additional incentives that are designed to attract and support investment in the Sultanate's industrial sector, including a five-year income tax exemption for industrial projects, and exemption of production inputs from taxes and customs duties, in addition to other incentives and services. **Discussion panel** The event included a discussion session featuring both Omani and international experts, including Dr. Masoud AlAzri, Director General of Agricultural and Fisher-

ies Marketing at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources; Dr. Ayman Al Fudhaili, CEO of the Industrial Innovation Academy; Eng. Salem Al Bortmany, CEO of Areej Vegetable Oils and Derivatives; and Suresh Vaidhyathan, CEO of Ghassan Aboud Group in Dubai. The panel shed light on strategies to enhance food security, build resilience, and drive innovation for sustainable solutions. The event also witnessed the launch of several innovative products by Omani SMEs including frankincense oils by the Natural Frankincense Products, coconut juice by Al Abrar Golden International, cheese products by Samahram Cheese Factory, and tamarind sauces by Homemade Product Enterprise. The Omani entrepreneurs behind these products incorporated creative touches that enhance their appeal and growth potential at both local and international markets. As part of the event, Madayn signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Agro Solution Korea Company Ltd. from South Korea to establish a specialised food industry project in the Sultanate. The project focuses on developing smart farms for Korean fruit production and launching a farm-based café. Concluding the event, Madayn honoured leading Omani companies and factories in the food sector in recognition of their role in driving growth, excellence and innovation.

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

Al Madina Takaful, up 2.38%, was the top gainer while Al Omaniya Non convertible Bonds 2020, down 6.25%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,468.58 points, up by 0.07% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.10% at 415.38 points. Al Madina Takaful, up 2.38%, was the top gainer while Al Omaniya Non convertible Bonds 2020, down 6.25%, was the top loser. Shares of OQBI were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while OQEP were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1033 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 2.44 million, with more than 14.3 million shares changing hands. Out of 45 traded securities, 14 advanced, 14 declined, and 17 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 384K while foreign investors were net sellers for RO 339K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 45K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,778.40 points, up 0.04%. Prices of Al Madina Takaful, Al Madina

Investments, Bank Nizwa, Bank Muscat were up by 2.38%, 2.17%, 0.98%, 0.39% respectively. Prices of Takaful Oman, Muscat Finance, Sohar International Bank, National Finance, OMINVEST were down by 2.04%, 2.00%, 0.75%, 0.74%, 0.62% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,562.10 points, down 0.08%. Prices of Galfar Engineering, Jazeera Steel Products were up by 1.39%, 0.54% respectively. Prices of Voltamp Energy, Gulf Mushroom Products were down by 2.18%, 0.41% respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.2% before closing at 1,664.35 points. Prices of SMN Power Holding, Muscat Desalination, OQ Gas Networks, National Gas, Renaissance Services were up by 2.07%, 1.54%, 1.54%, 1.33%, 1.16% respectively. Prices of Oman National Engineering, Sharqiyah Desalination, Oman Telecom, Abraj Energy were down by 2.48%, 2.22%, 1.03%, 0.42% respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

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INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,468.80	4,456.25	4,468.58	4,465.49	3.09	0.07
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,784.13	7,766.18	7,778.40	7,775.27	3.13	0.04
Industry Index	5,568.33	5,525.65	5,562.10	5,566.68	-4.59	-0.08
Services Index	1,664.35	1,658.27	1,664.35	1,661.01	3.34	0.20
MSX Shariah Index	415.46	414.04	415.38	414.95	0.43	0.10
MSX TR INDEX	6,260.74	6,243.15	6,260.43	6,256.10	4.33	0.07
FINANCIAL TR IDX	8,843.57	8,823.18	8,837.06	8,833.50	3.56	0.04
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,424.53	6,375.29	6,417.34	6,422.63	-5.29	-0.08
SERVICES TR IDX	1,996.00	1,988.71	1,996.00	1,992.00	4.01	0.20
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
14,300,075	2,440,025	1,033	27,317,490,972	14	14	17	45

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFF.	PREV. VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	384,083	32,799	18	0.085	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.084	0.002	2.381	0.086	0.086	0.086	0.100	15,050,000
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	839,931	109,752	92	0.131	0.132	0.130	0.132	0.130	0.002	1.538	0.131	0.131	0.132	0.100	571,642,357
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	71,614	24,950	10	0.349	0.349	0.347	0.349	0.345	0.004	1.159	0.349	0.347	0.349	0.100	82,507,090
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	2,000	1,200	1	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.594	0.006	1.010	0.600	0.561	0.600	0.100	57,000,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	69,500	25,711	20	0.371	0.372	0.367	0.372	0.370	0.002	0.541	0.372	0.370	0.377	0.100	46,462,041
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	784,237	199,956	17	0.255	0.255	0.254	0.255	0.254	0.001	0.394	0.255	0.254	0.255	0.100	1,914,131,251
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	38,784	2,560	10	0.067	0.067	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.000	0.006	0.066	0.062	0.066	0.100	8,043,750
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	2,000	820	1	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.410	0.000	0.000	0.410	0.405	0.420	0.100	135,657,811
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	21,890	1,313	3	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.060	0.065	0.100	21,367,638
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIYA INVESTMENT HO.	10,000	789	1	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.078	0.080	0.100	8,840,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	9,951	864	2	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.000	0.000	0.087	0.087	0.088	0.100	17,400,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	13,720	2,799	6	0.204	0.204	0.204	0.204	0.204	0.000	0.000	0.204	0.199	0.204	0.100	132,792,623
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	5,402	505	3	0.094	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.094	0.000	0.000	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.100	89,729,763
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	260,638	17,723	28	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.100	45,892,345
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	1,208,273	79,800	48	0.067	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.100	47,865,225
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	184,981	44,371	25	0.240	0.242	0.238	0.239	0.240	-0.001	-0.417	0.239	0.239	0.240	0.100	184,077,800
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	88,219	28,378	20	0.324	0.324	0.320	0.322	0.324	-0.002	-0.617	0.322	0.322	0.323	0.100	215,213,667
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	806,310	107,471	25	0.134	0.134	0.133	0.133	0.134	-0.001	-0.746	0.133	0.132	0.134	0.100	880,993,754
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	200,249	173,700	54	0.878	0.878	0.863	0.869	0.878	-0.009	-1.025	0.869	0.868	0.869	0.100	651,750,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INVESTMENT	55,000	6,552	14	0.120	0.120	0.118	0.118	0.121	-0.003	-2.479	0.118	0.118	0.120	0.100	17,700,000
Total	20	5,056,762	861,985	398												
Parallel Market																
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	20,000	940	3	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.046	0.001	2.174	0.047	0.046	0.048	0.100	3,995,000
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	203,894	68,918	18	0.338	0.345	0.338	0.345	0.338	0.007	2.071	0.345	0.338	0.345	0.100	68,874,282
OM0000007084	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	45,000	2,970	4	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.065	0.001	1.538	0.066	0.064	0.066	0.100	10,266,326
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	118,295	8,559	9	0.071	0.074	0.071	0.073	0.072	0.001	1.389	0.073	0.072	0.079	0.100	14,818,011
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	57,380	4,354	7	0.075	0.076	0.075	0.076	0.075	0.001	1.333	0.076	0.075	0.076	0.100	6,460,000
OM0000009908	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SPZ)	4,818,240	486,769	138	0.101	0.102	0.100	0.101	0.100	0.001	1.000	0.101	0.101	0.101	0.040	349,408,576
OM0000004450	BANK NIZWA	47,959	4,870	9	0.102	0.103	0.101	0.103	0.102	0.001	0.960	0.103	0.101	0.103	0.100	230,406,162
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	1,500,000	238,500	5	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.173	0.000	0.000	0.173	0.171	0.190	0.100	408,490,742
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	2,500	425	1	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.000	0.170	0.153	0.170	0.100	7,283,308
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	9,222	535	2	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.000	0.000	0.058	0.057	0.058	0.100	84,830,885
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	118	11	1	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.085	0.092	0.100	18,400,000
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	34,500	8,418	3	0.244	0.244	0.244	0.244	0.245	-0.001	-0.408	0.244	0.238	0.244	0.100	11,166,855
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	58,601	7,853	3	0.134	0.134	0.134	0.134	0.135	-0.001	-0.741	0.134	0.132	0.134	0.100	76,876,374
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	2,021,731	631,121	399	0.314	0.315	0.310	0.311	0.315	-0.004	-1.270	0.311	0.311	0.284	0.0102	488,000,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	30,000	1,470	1	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.050	-0.001	-2.000	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.100	15,050,170
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	100	5	1	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.049	-0.001	-2.041	0.048	0.045	0.053	0.100	12,000,000
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	2,682	1,426	4	0.520	0.538	0.520	0.538	0.550	-0.012	-2.182	0.538	0.522	0.545	0.100	43,794,680
OM0000004689	SHARQIYAH DESALINATION	149,000	19,738	8	0.130	0.139	0.130	0.132	0.135	-0.003	-2.222	0.132	0.134	0.132	0.100	12,909,885
Total	18	9,119,202	1,507,881	616												

COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Sezad signs agreement to build camel racing track

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) has signed a cooperation programme with Vulcan Green Steel (VGS), a subsidiary of Jindal Steel Group, to fund the construction of a camel racing track in Duqm as part of the company's corporate social responsibility

initiatives. The VGS will fund the construction of the track with an investment of OMR350,000.

The cooperation programme was signed by Eng. Ahmed bin Ali Akaak, CEO of Sezad, and Yousuf Al Reesi, Corporate Affairs General Manager at VGS.

The construction of the camel racing track follows the allocation

of a 4.8 million square metre plot by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, with the track extending approximately six kilometres.

Eng. Akaak stated that establishing the camel racing track in Duqm aligns with the zone's efforts, along with its operating companies, to enhance services for the local community. He added, "Duqm and its

neighbouring wilayats are known for breeding purebred Omani camels. We are working in collaboration with companies operating in the zone to support camel owners in practising this tradition."

He also noted that the camel racing track aims to promote the sport and strengthen Duqm's capabilities in hosting local sporting events.

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Indian (male), 20 yrs Oman exp, knowledge of finalisation of accounts, VAT, TAX, LCLTR, & ERP Oracle. Contact: 92383882

Group finance manager, Indian, 25yrs of experience, looking job change, Contact:78399621

Accountant, B.com, graduate with 06yrs of experience.Proficient in finalization,vat and taxation with Oman DL. Contact: +968 97611460, Email: sreeju.8.ek@gmail.com

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs Valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

SriLankan, MBA finance, 9+ yrs experience in financial statements, auditing, budgeting, VAT, tax, fixed assets, reconciliation, payroll. Seeking a full-time or part-time position in a senior role. Contact: 93988825 akramhaniffa@yahoo.com

Indian MBA graduate having 2 yrs experience in accounting department. Contact : 79819938 Email: mohammedasim955@gmail.com

Indian graduate having 2 yrs experience in accounts & sales department. Contact: 7642 0699, Email: saqibahmed0319@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Accountant with 5 yrs expertise in accounts payable, receivables, financial reporting, VAT, payroll, and bank & cash reconciliation. Actively looking for new opportunities. Contact: 79791746 Email:Ibrahimsaw52@gmail.com

Indian male, MBA (Berlin), M.com, SAP, with 5+ yrs experience in India, UAE, Germany accounts, project management.Seeks a suitable position & available immediately. Contact: 95860072. Email: mastermerin95@gmail.com

35 yrs, Indian, male, with 8yrs of experience in Oman & UAE looking for an accounting, admin job vacancy in Oman. Contact: 77484934

Senior Accountant upto finalization with D/L. Contact: +968 79471027

A skilled professional MBA (Finance & marketing) with more than 2 yrs experience in India seeks suitable accountant or sales positions. Contact: +91 6238349738 (WA), Email: thaha2255@gmail.com

Accounts Manager, 22 yrs of exp in accounts(20 yrs in Oman) until finalization (MIS, collections, handling inventory and payments and all related work). Contact: 91410602

Indian, male, Accountant, M.com (finance), 12 yrs experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently, Noc & D/L available. Contact: 99859141

Accounts manager, Ass. FM, Indian, male, B.com, MBA. More than 15yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation. Looking for immediate placement. Contact: 91469060

Sr. Accountant, accountant, 16 yrs of experience in Oman. Accounts up to finalisation and auditing. Contact: 94001764.

Junior accountant, Indian, male B.com graduate 2yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable job. Contact: 78047716

Highly skilled Chief accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: +968 79888153

Indian male, having 2.5 yrs of experience in Accounts, finance, admin looking for job. Contact: +968 79414996, Email: sajadzn29@gmail.com

Indian male with 4+ yrs exp. in Oman, worked as Accounts & admin executive Bachelor Degree in Management (BBA) with valid D/L, ready to join immediately. Contact: 93536020, Email: naseentm24@gmail.com

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Indian male MBA(HR) & B tech (Comp) with nearly 10 yrs of over all experience seeks job. Contact: +968 94168194, +91 9745020204, Email: gokulgopan91@hotmail.com

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Qualified junior Architect with experience in software such as Auto- CAD, lumion, sketchUp, revit, 3Ds max etc. looking for job in Oman. Contact: +968 78902260, E-mail: ar.mohamedadadhelka@gmail.com

Architect, Interior designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com

Graduate Architect with valid Oman D/L. Proficient in various Design software. Looking for Architect, interior designer roles. Contact: 93249129, Email: psmenez2015@gmail.com

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Msc Chemistry graduate, Indian female, looking for jobs in Oman. Preferably in Sohar. Contact: 77198123, Email: deenafrancis75@gmail.com,

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Chemistry teacher with 7 yrs experience of teaching IGCSE chemistry (Pakistani). Currently in Oman. Contact: +968 78684306

Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/+968 94117967, Email: induchandran01@gmail.com

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Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvl@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225

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MEP Engineer contact for task need to be complete CINIL, MEP, drawings quantities take off estimation. Contact 99462978

Indian male (Mechanical Engineer) with Oman experience in Oil & Gas, BDM, procurement, logistic, inventory management & operations. Ready to join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 99189094, Email: ben.sdbmct@gmail.com

E & I Engineer 6 yrs exp in Oman in oil & gas construction , testing & commissioning. OQ approved QC inspector & PTWH. Looking for job Contact: 94971464

Civil engineer supervisor, 14 yrs experience civil & tower project with D/L & own visa. Contact: 78002980

BE Project engineer 12-13 yrs experience. Contact: 93850875, Email: abdulcivilco2015@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer with over 4 yrs experience in sales and operations having Oman D/L with MSc in Engineering management from UK available to join immediately. Contact: 96111283, Email: dobin.mathew@gmail.com.

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Indian, female, MBA in HR & finance, Diploma in logistics & supply chain management with 6mths exp as CS,1 mth internship in logistics, looking for job. Contact 98233405, Email: nivyakraj123@gmail.com

Looking for a job (Indian male) Store keeper, documents controller,procurement Experience 6+yrs in GCC, (ERP system). Valid Qatar D/L Ready to join immediately. Contact: +968-79366717 Email: sshahidmj@gmail.com

Sudanese Supply chain professional with CSCP certificate, MBA and 10 yrs experience in supply chain, logistics, procurement and project management. Contact: 95272472. Email: kemeir@hotmail.com

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Procurement engineer, Sudanese, 10yrs experience in Oman,MEP, firefighting, projects, D/L. Contact: 79027138 .

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Finance manager with 15 yrs of experience in oil & gas multinational company looking for suitable placement. Contact: 95230609

Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive) looking for suitable position. Contact : 98132055

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Veterinary doctor having BVSC & AH degree from India with 5 yrs experience in animal health, poultry and meat production processing, Seeking a suitable position. Contact: 76409087, Email: dramitchauhan0@gmail.com

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Indian, MBA, graduate having 2 yrs experience in sales department. Contact : 78115007 Email: abdullahgawai@gmail.com

Meta certified social media marketer 5 yrs of experience. Looking for a suitable digital media social media position. Currently in Muscat. Contact: 94201134

Indian male, Sales executive (MBA in Marketing) with 10 yrs of experience in FMCG & automobile with strong communication skills, holding valid Oman. D/L. Contact: 92350798

Indian male MBA graduated specialized with Marketing & HR (fresher). Looking for suitable positions . Currently in Muscat Oman. Contact: +968 71084371, Email: ccrashid9@gmail.com



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Qatar Tourism had organised the 51st UN Tourism Commission in Doha on 12 February that also featured a ministerial meeting and a conference titled “Sports Tourism and the Tourism Industry after the successful hosting of FIFA World Cup.

The hosting of the event presented an exclusive opportunity to hear from Arab tourism leaders and gain insights into the future of sports tourism and its impact on the region.

Coinciding with the tourism event, the Qatar International Food Festival has been organised that will continue till 22 February. From award-winning Michelin-starred restaurants to local hidden gems and unique dining concepts, it was a time to discover a vibrant fusion of international influences and modern creativity that defines its culinary identity.

Beyond these events, the trip provided an opportunity to discover the rich heritage, stunning landscapes, and lively culture of Qatar. From its architectural marvels to its world-renowned museums and warm hospitality, the visitors explored the country’s unique blend of tradition and modernity.

Doha, proudly named the Arab Tourism Capital for 2023, is where visitors can experience authentically warm Arabian hospitality amid a backdrop of a rapidly developing economy.

Qatar is renowned for its exemplary warmth, exquisite cuisine, world-class hospitality infrastructure and myriad of things to do, from adventures in the desert to the sea. Combined, Qatar is a rising international tourist destination that offers something exceptional for every type of traveller.

Qatar has many things to offer, from cultural hubs such as Souq Waqif and Katara Cultural Village, to the thought-provoking museums found in Qatar such as Msheireb Downtown Doha. In addition, Qatar’s year-round calendar of exciting events provides visitors with further inspiration for their time in the country.

With its captivating landscapes, vibrant culture & heritage sites, pristine beaches, world-class museums, luxurious resorts, and cutting-edge architecture, Qatar offers an array of attractions that cater to diverse interests. In January 2024, Qatar welcomed over 700,000 visitors – the highest in a month ever, breaking another record.

In 2024, Qatar surpassed five million visitors, exceeding annual visitor numbers of the past five years.

The gateway to Qatar is its Hamad International Airport (HIA) which is more than just a transit hub; it’s a destination. Recognised as the best airport in the world three times by the Skytrax World Airport Awards, HIA seamlessly blends cutting-edge architecture with unmatched luxury and comfort.

The airport’s terminal spans 725,000 square meters, positioning it among the largest airport terminals globally. HIA is designed to handle over 50 million passengers annually, ensuring efficiency and comfort.

As a peninsula surrounded by the Arabian Sea, its beaches are havens for marine and wildlife, and ideal for sailing, diving, and water sports.

Just one hour from Doha, you’ll step foot into a different world. Qatar’s south-eastern desert is an epic wilderness where you might still spot a Bedouin camp especially during the winter season. In the camp you might spot camels grazing in the distance, and undulating sand dunes as far as the eye can see.

Venture into the rocky northern desert to discover ancient



EXPLORING QATAR’S UNIQUE BLEND OF TRADITION AND MODERNITY

BY PANKAJ KUMAR SHARMA



petroglyphs from Neolithic times at Jassasiya Rock Art Site. Admire otherworldly ‘mushroom’ rock formations at Zekreet or see Al Rekyat Fort at Al Zubarah – an important settlement during the golden age of the pearling trade.

Surrounded by water and blessed with year-round sunny weather, Qatar is an ideal location for water sports. The country’s crystal-clear beaches, waterparks and marinas invite everyone to try out new activities and experiences. The best kite surfing is available in Qatar, along a natural lagoon on the north coast, at the Fuwairit Kite Beach Resort.

Qatar is also home to one of the largest whale shark congregations in the entire world. Discover Qatar offers attractive itineraries for all wildlife enthusiasts who want to admire these fascinating creatures.

Qatar is a vibrant hub of culture, entertainment, and heritage, offering a variety of incredible destinations to explore. The iconic Katara Cultural Village in Doha

seamlessly blends art, culture, and tradition, providing a dynamic space for cultural exchange and entertainment.

Visitors can marvel at the Katara Amphitheatre, a majestic open-air venue inspired by classical Greek architecture, and explore the Katara Museums, which highlight Islamic heritage and global cultures. The village also offers luxury shopping at Galeries Lafayette and upscale retail at 21 High Street, while hosting vibrant events and activities during National Day to celebrate Qatar’s rich heritage.

In addition, the all-new West Walk is a modern urban destination that blends residential, retail, and dining experiences, offering a vibrant lifestyle hub in the heart of the city.

Also, for another culturally rich experience, the Mina District, a charming waterfront area in the heart of Doha, enchants visitors with its pastel-coloured buildings, vibrant maritime atmosphere, and the opportunity to en-

joy a leisurely stroll and coffee at its various coffee shops.

Qatar is a unique blend of innovation, heritage, and entertainment, offering destinations that captivate with their cultural richness and modern attractions.

Msheireb Downtown Doha, a model of sustainable urban development, merges cutting-edge innovation with traditional heritage. Visitors can immerse themselves in Qatar’s history at the Msheireb Museums, housed in four restored heritage buildings, and explore Al Kahraba Street and the Doha Design District, which celebrate creativity and design excellence.

Meanwhile, Lusail City stands as a symbol of Qatar’s future, boasting futuristic architecture and vibrant districts. Guests can enjoy a panoramic tour of Lusail Boulevard, the Marina District, and Lusail Stadium, the iconic venue of the FIFA World Cup 2022 final, making it a must-visit destination.

Qatar’s unique museums are



the history of four historic heritage houses in the heart of Msheireb Downtown Doha. They reveal unique aspects of Qatar’s cultural and social development.

Qatar has a lot of shopping malls around the country, but the love of retail therapy goes back to the country’s history as traders in the souq.

The souq functions as a one stop shop for daily necessities, with fabrics, spices and more. Souq Waqif feels like an anachronism, particularly against the backdrop of Doha’s dramatic modernist skyline. With its mud-daubed buildings, the market harkens to a bygone era while remaining a hub of activity. Souq Waqif’s winding alleys offer a tableau of traditional street life.

Le Printemps Doha is the largest luxury department store in the Middle East and the prestigious French brand’s first foray into international markets.

Doha Oasis is a vibrant destination combining luxury retail, leisure, and entertainment. It is home to Quest, a state-of-the-art indoor theme park offering record-breaking thrilling rides, family-friendly attractions, and immersive experiences for all ages.

Home to people from over 100 countries, Qatar is a truly multicultural society. Its varied dining scene reflects this rich diversity, featuring an eclectic range of influences.

Qatar’s dining scene ranges from restaurants run by world-renowned and celebrity chefs to budget friendly bites with just a few riyals needed to savour a warm falafel or quick shawarma fresh off the grill.

Whether you’re planning a visit or simply interested in learning more, Qatar’s traditions are sure to leave a lasting impression.

For generations, fishing, pearl diving and trading provided a livelihood for much of the population in Qatar. Traditional wooden dhows, largely unchanged in design over the years, are a remnant of this seafaring tradition and still ply Qatar’s waters today.

Falconry helped with hunting wild game and providing food to the family. Although livestock provided the majority of the nomads’ food, falconry was regarded as a skillful art, and men would frequently compare how well their birds were trained and cared for. To take a closer look at the Qatari Falconry culture, visit the Falcon Souq in Souq Waqif.

Incense is very popular in Qatar and throughout the region. Made from scented wood, it is burned in a special incense burner called a mabkhara to produce a rich smoke to perfume the home and clothing. As a show of hospitality, visitors are often invited to waft the smoke around themselves.

As one of the fast-growing emerging cruise destinations on Arabian Gulf itineraries, Qatar has invested extensively in the cruise tourism industry, witnessing tremendous success over the past few years.

Doha’s emergence as a premier cruise destination reflects Qatar’s commitment to expanding its tourism offerings. Since its inception in 2016 with modest numbers, the industry has seen extraordinary expansion.

The newly expanded Doha Port Cruise Ships Terminal serves as the hub for cruise tourism in Qatar, offering exceptional hospitality and experiences. Qatar Tourism is the regulatory body of the tourism sector in Qatar.

Its mission is to promote and expand tourism in Qatar by cultivating its rich culture, developing thrilling attractions, and luxury experiences. It has a clear vision to strengthen Qatar’s position as a premier family-tourism destination distinguished by service excellence, to achieve diverse and innovative economic growth.

SPORTS

Future champions sparkle at Oman Sail Winter Cup 2025

Over 50 young sailors from Oman Sail's three schools competed in four events over four days at the Barcelo Mussanah Resort

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Oman Sail Winter Cup concluded on February 14 at Barcelo Mussanah Resort, showcasing the nation's rising sailing talents across four competitive classes. Over 50 young sailors from Oman Sail's three sailing schools competed in the four-day event, with top performers securing podium finishes and a pathway to future international regattas.

Khamis Al Mashaikhi dominated the Optimist category, winning four out of five races to claim the title. Hood Saad Al Nofli secured second place with a race win and three runner-up finishes, while Mohammed Ziyad Al Qasimi finished third after consistent podium performances.

Al Qasimi also emerged as the top Junior sailor, ahead of Khaled Yahya Al Sarihi and Mohammed Suleiman Al Balushi.

In the ILCA 4 category, a tightly contested battle saw Has-



san Nasser Al Wahaibi edge out Tamim Sulaiman Al Balushi by a single point to take the title, with Saoud Talib Al Shaqsi securing third.

The ILCA 6 event was dominated by Al Moatsem Hamooud Al Farsi, who clinched victory with four consecutive wins. Alsalam Ali Al Hamdani took second place after four runner-up finishes, while Hatem Mohsen Al-Araimi secured third with a late race victory.

The ILCA 7 class witnessed a flawless performance from Hus-sain Said Al Jabri, who won all five races to claim the title. Ali Hussein Al Saadi finished second in all five races, securing his place as runner-up. Meanwhile, Mussanah Sailing School received the Best Sailing School award, highlighting



the depth of talent emerging from their training programme.

Among the women sailors, Tar-teel Zaid Al Hasani was the highest-ranked, finishing fifth overall in the Optimist category. Hadeel Yousuf Al Mushaifri and Abeer



Kalil Al Zakwani followed in second and third in the Optimist Girls division, placing 13th and 19th overall, respectively.

Hashim Al Rashdi, Oman Sail's Head Coach of Performance, praised the event's competitive

squad will focus on building upon these achievements and representing Oman with pride."

The young sailors will now prepare for a packed international calendar, starting with the GCC Beach Games in Muscat from April 5-11, followed by the 2025 Optimist World Championships in Slovenia in July.

Key events later in the year include the Oman Sailing Championship in Sur in August, the Suleymanpasa Cup in Turkiye in September, and Mussanah Race Week in October. Oman Sail will also host the 2025 IODA Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship from October 25 to November 1, before concluding the season with the Arab Sailing Championship in Algeria in November.

LEWANDOWSKI NETS WINNER



Barca edge Rayo Vallecano to go top of Spanish La Liga

BARCELONA: Barcelona saw out a nervy 1-0 win against Rayo Vallecano on Monday night to return to the top of La Liga for the first time since December.

Robert Lewandowski's first-half penalty was enough for Barca to leapfrog title rivals Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid, after both capital clubs dropped points in 1-1 draws on Saturday.

The Poland striker rolled his spot-kick in off the post - his 20th league goal of the season - after the hosts were awarded a contentious penalty following a video assistant

referee (VAR) review.

Rayo midfielder Pathe Ciss was penalised for pulling down Inigo Martinez in the box, though the Barcelona centre-back was never close to getting to the ball ahead of goalkeeper Augusto Batalla.

The visitors were incensed when they were denied a penalty following a similar incident, this time Ciss going to ground.

The controversy continued as Rayo thought they had equalised when Jorge de Frutos latched on to a through ball and finished past Wojciech Szczesny, but striker

Randy Nteka - standing in an off-side position - was judged to have interfered with Martinez's ability to make a tackle.

Barcelona spurned several chances to score in the second half, and were fortunate not to concede a late equaliser when De Frutos headed over following a Rayo counter-attack.

Hansi Flick's side go top of the table with 51 points, ahead of Real Madrid on goal difference, and one point above Atletico Madrid, with 14 games left to play as the fight for the top honours intensifies. - Agencies

LIVERPOOL CENTRE-BACK

Defender Gomez likely to require surgery after hamstringing injury



LONDON: Liverpool manager Arne Slot said on Tuesday that defender Joe Gomez will miss "large parts" of the remainder of the season with a hamstringing injury that may require surgery.

The England centre-back was substituted after 11 minutes in Liverpool's FA Cup fourth-round defeat by Plymouth Argyle on 9 February.

Gomez was making his first appearance after six weeks out with a previous hamstring problem.

The club have yet to decide whether 27-year-old Gomez, who

has been limited to 10 starts this season, requires an operation.

But Slot said that he "might", and the defender will be out for a lengthy period whether an operation is required or not.

"It's a big blow for Joe and for us," said Slot.

"He works really hard to come back and then the first game when he came back after two or three minutes we saw him making a sprint and now he is out for weeks again.

"So that's always very hard for a player in every part of the season,

let alone a part of the season everyone is looking forward to.

"He will miss large parts of the end of the season but we expect him to be back in the final phase of the season."

Liverpool face Aston Villa at Villa Park on Wednesday, when they will be hoping to go ten points clear at the top of the Premier League table with a victory. Cody Gakpo, who missed Sunday's 2-1 win against Wolves at Anfield because of a knock, remains absent for Liverpool. - Agencies

WON TWO MEDALS IN PARIS

Shooter Manu Bhaker named Indian Sportswoman of the Year

NEW DELHI: Olympic shooter Manu Bhaker has been named BBC Indian Sportswoman of the Year for 2024 following a global public vote.

The 22-year-old earned recognition for her historic feat as the first Indian woman to win two medals at a single Olympic Games.

Bhaker became the first Indian woman to clinch an Olympic medal in shooting when she secured bronze in the women's 10m air pistol event in Paris. Just two days later, she added another bronze alongside Sarabjot Singh in the mixed 10m air pistol.

Previously, Bhaker had won the Emerging Athlete of the Year award.

On receiving the latest honour, Bhaker reflected on her journey, and said: "I have had a journey of ups and downs. I hope I can inspire women, all athletes, and people with big dreams. Your journey doesn't end if you are struggling. You write your own story."

Fellow shooter Avani Lekhara was named Para-sportswoman of the Year. The 23-year-old made history as the first Indian woman to win three Paralympic medals, claiming gold in Paris after securing gold and bronze at Tokyo 2020.

Archer Sheetal Devi, India's youngest Paralympic medallist, won the Emerging Athlete Award. At just 18, she added a bronze at the Paris Games to her two golds and one sil-



ver at the 2022 Asian Para Games, along with a silver at the World Para Archery Championships.

Cricket legend Mithali Raj

was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her unparalleled 18-year captaincy of the Indian women's team. The

42-year-old, who led from 2004 to 2022, holds the record as the longest-serving captain in international cricket history.

The event's theme, Champions' Champions, paid tribute to the unsung heroes who have played a crucial role in shaping medal-winning athletes. A special documentary featuring the guide runners of blind athletes has also been released across multiple platforms.

BBC director general Tim Davie, who hosted the awards ceremony, said: "Manu Bhaker's historic Olympic performance is a defining moment for Indian sports. Her journey from a promising young shooter to a record-breaking Olympian inspires athletes across

the country and beyond.

"We are also honoured to celebrate Avani Lekhara as the Para-sportswoman of the Year. Her resilience and record-breaking success continue to pave the way for greater inclusion and excellence in Para-sports.

Rupa Jha, CEO of Collective Newsroom, emphasised the broader impact of the awards. She said: "I am delighted to see how these honours continue to amplify the achievements of Indian women in sports, breaking barriers and inspiring future generations. These awards are not just about recognition but about creating a lasting impact on the sporting landscape of India and beyond." - Agencies

ROUND-UP

Enjoy fun experiences in Chery Arrizo 6 PRO

Engineered for those who seek a blend of style, performance and practicality, the Arrizo 6 PRO makes every journey more enjoyable, ensuring lasting memories with every drive



MUSCAT: The Chery Arrizo 6 PRO is a sophisticated sedan designed to elevate the driving experience with its advanced technology, premium comfort and intelligent safety features. Engineered for those who seek a blend of style, performance and practicality, the Arrizo 6 PRO makes every journey more enjoyable, ensuring lasting memories with every drive. The Arrizo 6 PRO is crafted to leave a lasting impression with its dynamic and modern exterior. The bold front grille, sleek LED headlamps and aerodynamic silhouettes reflect a refined and sporty aesthetic, making the sedan stand out on any road.

Inside, the cabin exudes luxury with high-quality materials, a spacious layout and a driver-centric design. The leather seats, intuitive dashboard and ambient lighting create a sophisticated and comfortable environment, perfect for long journeys or city commutes. The 10.25-inch touchscreen infotainment system, integrated with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, ensures seamless connectivity, allowing passengers to stay entertained and informed on the go. Under the hood, the Arrizo 6 PRO boasts an advanced turbo-charged engine, delivering an exhilarating balance of power and efficiency. The continuously variable transmission (CVT) en-

sures smooth acceleration and enhanced fuel economy, making every drive effortless. Advanced driving features such as cruise control, electric power steering and multiple driving modes allow drivers to personalise their experience, ensuring a responsive and dynamic ride. Whether navigating through city traffic or cruising on highways, the Arrizo 6 PRO guarantees an exceptional driving experience. Safety remains a top priority in the Arrizo 6 PRO, equipped with cutting-edge features to protect both driver and passengers. The sedan comes with a 360-degree camera system, blind-spot monitoring, lane departure warning

and an advanced electronic stability program for superior handling and control. Additionally, multiple airbags, a reinforced high-strength body and an intelligent braking system work together to ensure the highest level of protection. The Arrizo 6 PRO is designed with smart technology to make every trip more enjoyable and convenient. The intelligent keyless entry, push-start ignition and an advanced climate control system provide ease of access and comfort. Moreover, the voice control system allows drivers to operate essential functions hands-free, enhancing safety and convenience on the road. In Oman, Chery vehicles are distributed by New World Autos.

SUPPORTING YOUTH

Alizz Islamic Bank participates in Sultan Qaboos University career fair

MUSCAT: As part of Alizz Islamic Bank's strategy of supporting youth; the bank recently participated in the Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) Career Fair reaffirming the bank's commitment to partner with various educational institutions to provide the best opportunities and training programs for students in order to refine their practical skills in various fields and job specialties, especially those related to the Islamic banking and finance sector. The bank continuously strives to develop the future leaders of Oman; placing great importance on education, training and development, empowering future generations and equipping them with the skills and capabilities needed to contribute their creative potential towards serving their communities. As part of this directive, Alizz Islamic Bank continuously develops learning and development programmes that targets youth such as the 'Manar Alizz' and 'Manahil Alizz' programs that focus on educating the Omani youth about Islamic banking as an industry and various leadership competencies. The 'Manar Alizz' programme is designed to educate youth about Islamic banking products, encourage banking innovation, and en-



able the bank's experts to generate and share knowledge in their various fields of expertise. It is one of the bank's strategic directions to share knowledge of Islamic Finance and business as a platform for sustainability under the pillar of education. Additionally, Alizz Islamic Bank has the 'Manahil Alizz' Internship

programme which was designed to train third and fourth year university and college students and augment their capabilities by equipping them with the essential skills and knowledge required to successfully enter the workforce. The 'Manahil Alizz' Internship Programme has more than 50 graduates so far from different regions

across the country. The candidates of the program were able to develop their leadership skills, project management capabilities and learn how to overcome challenges in an actual working environment. It is worth mentioning that Alizz Islamic Bank recently launched 'Alizz Youth' a value proposition specifically for the youth. This comprehensive program offers a wide range of attractive benefits and services designed to meet the unique needs of today's youth needs, while also encouraging them to adapt to the culture of saving to help them secure their future. The annual SQU Career Fair serves as a link between university students and the private sector. It allows the participating institutions to learn about the academic level, skills and abilities of students. Talent acquisition plays a big role in events such as the SQU Career Fair and through such events Alizz Islamic Bank endeavors to harness the potential of youth through improving their capabilities and accelerating their growth. By providing a platform to empower national cadres, the Bank has contributed to the country's socio-economic development in line with Oman Vision 2040.

PARTICIPATION

Omran strengthens engagement with national talent at SQU Career Fair

MUSCAT: Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran Group) is taking part in the 25th Career Fair at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), held from 17 to 19 February 2025. This participation reflects the Group's ongoing efforts to connect with young Omani talent, introduce them to professional and training initiatives, and inspire the next generation of tourism industry leaders. Aligned with its #IAmTourism strategy, which embodies the Group's vision to attract and nurture national talent by equipping them with globally recognized skills to drive the sector's growth, Omran Group's participation in the fair reinforces its commitment to empowering Omani youth and raising awareness of the diverse career and training opportunities within the tourism and hospitality industry. Visitors to Omran Group's booth at



the SQU Cultural Center's Grand Hall, open daily from 9 AM to 4:30 PM, can explore various roles, internships, and development programs designed to cultivate national talent and enhance their competitiveness in the job market. Muzna Al Alawi, Group Talent Acquisition & Attraction Manager

commented: "Our participation in the SQU Career Fair reflects our ongoing commitment to being closer to Omani youth, introducing them to our diverse initiatives, and showcasing the programs we have designed to nurture national talent. Through this platform, we aim to inspire and engage with stu-

dents and graduates, offering them valuable insights into the learning and development opportunities within the tourism sector. By fostering this connection, we reaffirm our role in shaping the future workforce and supporting the professional growth of young Omanis who aspire to build careers in this dynamic industry." Omran Group is dedicated to strengthening collaboration between academic institutions and the tourism sector, ensuring that students and graduates have access to learning experiences that align with real-world industry needs. Through its diverse programs, the Group continues to bridge the gap between education and employment, offering young Omanis valuable insights into the evolving demands of the sector and preparing them for meaningful careers.

BRIEFS

Indian School teachers win awards for excellence



MUSCAT: The prestigious 'Navin Asher-Kazi Awards for Excellence in Teaching' instituted by the Board of Directors of Indian Schools in Oman, were conferred on teachers from Indian Schools in the Sultanate of Oman at a ceremonious function organized recently at Indian School Al Ghubra. The function was attended by Kiran Asher and family, the patrons of the Award; Former Chairman Yusuf Nalwala, esteemed members of the Board of Directors, Presidents, Principals and the recipients of the Awards for Excellence in Teaching and their families. The teachers who won this prestigious award in different categories are Rashmi Radhakrishnan (Indian School Muscat) and Hina Ansari (Indian School Bousher) in the Kindergarten category; Kanchan Bajeli and Vidhya Vishnu from Indian School Muscat in the Primary School Category; Sandhini Dinesh (Indian School Bousher) and Jisha Lal Deepak (Indian School Al Maabala) in the Middle School Category; Mrs. Haseena Begum Abdul Azeez and Jyothilakshmi Ranjit from Indian School Darsait in the Senior School Category; Ashutosh Pant and Victor Paul Raj from Indian School Muscat in the Co-scholastic Category. In addition to the above, 38 teachers in different categories were given Certificates of Recognition for their outstanding contribution in the field of education. Deepak Patankar, Principal, Indian School Salalah, Dr Srinivasan S, Principal, Indian School Sur and AbuHus-sain Abdul Kasim, Principal, Indian School Rustaq were recognized for their long service as Principals in their respective schools. Dr Jabir P.K of Indian School Al Seeb, Dr. Jyothy Ganeshanath of Indian School Muscat, Dr Pradeep R V of Indian School Sur and Dr Pramod Kumar Tiwari of Indian School Nizwa were felicitated for their Meritorious Achievement in obtaining Ph.D in their respective subjects.

Indian School Muscat hosts T10 Cricket Championship



MUSCAT: Indian School Muscat (ISM) hosted the highly anticipated T10 Cricket Championship at the Oman Cricket Stadium and Muscat Municipality Ground, Al Amerat, on February 14 and 15, as part of its grand golden jubilee celebrations. The event witnessed high-energy performances from teams competing across various categories, such as Corporate Teams, Parents/Alumni Teams, and Embassy/BOD/SMC/Staff of Indian Schools Oman Teams. The championship showcased exceptional cricketing talent and sportsmanship, with players displaying remarkable skills and teamwork. The tournament provided an excellent platform for fostering camaraderie among different communities while promoting the spirit of the game. The championship concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, extending profound gratitude to the dignitaries, participants, attendees, and the officials from Oman Cricket Academy. The sponsors of the event were sincerely appreciated for their unstinting support and wholehearted involvement. The T10 Cricket championship not only celebrated cricket but also reinforced the importance of teamwork, perseverance, and sportsmanship within the community.

Proud moments at ISD's graduation ceremony



MUSCAT: Indian School Darsait organized yet another solemn event of its academic calendar - Class XII Graduation Ceremony 2024-25 on 6 February recalling memories, heartfelt emotions, and showers of blessing. Shameer P.T.K, Director, Board of Directors, Indian Schools in Oman, was the Chief Guest while Shalimar Moideen, Vice President and Head- Academic Subcommittee, School Management Committee, attended the event as the Guest of Honour. The event began with the Royal Anthem of Oman and the National Anthem of India followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp and invocation prayer. Amar Srivastava, the Principal, extended a cordial welcome to the dignitaries, members of the School Management Committee, invitees, parents, staff and graduands. Following this, the class teachers introduced their students, while the outgoing students, dressed in graduation robes and caps, were honoured with a memento, graduation certificate and a certificate of excellence. Walking down their memory lanes, Aadil Shaham Arshad, Head Boy and Aysha Salka Sakkaraya, Head Girl, shared their reflections with nostalgia. As a token of gratitude, Class XII students presented a thoughtful gift to the school. Shamsah Hamza, Vice Principal, senior section, proposed the vote of thanks, expressing profound gratitude to the august gathering for their valuable presence in making the Graduation Day a remarkable one. The ceremony concluded with the Principal's inspiring exhortation to the outgoing students on life principles followed by 'Corridor of Blessings'.

ROUND-UP

NBO celebrates Mother’s Day with special rewards for cardholders

From 15 February to 10 March, all NBO cardholders — including Debit, Credit, and Badeel Prepaid Card customers — can participate by purchasing through POS and eCommerce transactions

MUSCAT: The National Bank of Oman (NBO) has announced launching a special Mother's Day campaign, rewarding top-spending cardholders with special packages in celebration of this special occasion on March 21, 2025. From 15 February to 10 March, all NBO cardholders — including Debit, Credit, and Badeel Prepaid Card customers — can participate by purchasing through POS and eCommerce transactions. Speaking on this exclusive offer, Maha Saud Al Raisi, Assistant General Manager and Head of Product at NBO, said: "As we celebrate this special occasion, we aim to offer our customers a meaningful way to celebrate with their loved ones. Not only does this campaign reward our valued cardholders, but it also helps to strengthen their familial bonds by providing a

truly memorable experience. With NBO cards, customers can enjoy easy transactions, enhanced security, and exclusive rewards, making their shopping journey even more rewarding. Through this initiative, we recognize and appreciate our customers." As part of the campaign, the highest spenders across various card categories will be rewarded with one winner to be selected from each of the Infinite, Signature, Platinum, and Gold Credit Card categories. For Debit Cards, two winners will be chosen from the Sadara, Mazaya, and Mass/Classic categories. Additionally, one winner each will be selected from the Badeel General Purpose and Travel categories under Badeel Cards. Please note that ATM transactions and government-related spending will not be considered.



LUXURY WATCH



Indian School Rustaq celebrates 31st annual day with enthusiasm

MUSCAT: Indian School Rustaq marked its 31st Annual Day with a spectacular celebration of student achievements and cultural performances. The event was attended by Dr. Sivakumar Manickam, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Indian Schools Oman, along with Guests of Honour Saeed Rashid Khalaf Al Abri, English Supervisor, Ministry of Education, South Batinah, Oman; Nitheesh Kumar, Finance Director, Board of Directors, Indian Schools Oman. Additionally, Suresh Vaddassery Sreedharan principal Indian School Ibri, was present as a distinguished guest. Principal Abu Hussain presented the annual report, highlighting the school's academic progress, extracurricular achievements, and student excel-

lence. The prize distribution ceremony honoured top achievers in ISTF, IS Quiz 2024, and STAI 2024, along with special awards for excellence for winners of the Ambassador's Cup 2025. Teachers and staff were recognized for their dedication, with long-service awards presented to key faculty members. The evening was filled with vibrant cultural performances, including classical and folk dances, musical acts, and a heartfelt skit on parental love. A special video presentation, Glimpses of ISR, beautifully captured the school's journey over the years. The 31st Annual Day was a proud moment for the school, reflecting its commitment to excellence and unity, leaving a lasting impression on all attendees.

CAREER FAIR

University students learn about career paths and training opportunities in Bank Muscat

MUSCAT: During the Career Fair at Sultan Qaboos University organised recently under the auspices of Khalid Salem Al Ghamari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour, Bank Muscat's stall experienced a positive turnout of students eager to explore diverse career and training opportunities. The Bank's participation in the Fair this year underscores its commitment to investing in human resources and creating valuable job and training prospects for Omani youth. Bank Muscat, honoured with the 'Best Places to Work Award 2024', takes pride in being one of the leading institutions in the Sultanate of Oman that prioritizes this vital sector. The Bank is committed to fostering collaboration and strengthening partnerships with various higher education institutions to achieve sustainable human resources objectives. A number of students and visitors expressed their views regarding the training and employment opportunities provided by Bank Muscat, highlighting the significance and value of such exhibitions and events. Aisha Mohammed Al Jabri, cyber and information security graduate from University of Technology and Applied Sciences, said: "These exhibitions provide significant benefits for graduates, as numerous institutions have established dedicated programmes for fresh graduates, presenting a wealth of opportunities for job seekers. For instance, Bank Muscat offers a variety of opportunities tailored to both students and graduates. They can explore these opportunities further by attending career fairs and engaging directly with representatives to ask questions."



Mazin Mohammed Al Siyabi, logistics graduate from Muscat University, said: "SQU career fair is an exceptional opportunity for graduates, serving as a platform that unites job seekers with various institutions. Bank Muscat showcases a range of opportunities, including both training and employment, tailored to diverse qualifications. Bank Muscat, for example, offers opportunities in finance, technology, marketing, financial analysis, customer service, and other specialized fields that are in high demand in the job market." Additionally, Fatma Said Al Amiri, telecommunications and electronic engineering graduate from University of Technology and Applied Sciences, said: "These events empower graduates to explore vacancies for both jobs and training opportunities, helping them acquire valuable new experiences. The participating institutions present a variety of training and employment options, and representatives are available to pro-

vide detailed information about these opportunities and the registration process." She also shared her views on the offerings from the Bank, noting that Bank Muscat provides diverse vacancies for graduates, tailored to their competencies, experiences, and skills. On his part, Ibrahim Sulieman Al Shaqsi, a visitor, commented: "The significance of such exhibitions lies in their ability to enrich graduates and students by providing them with opportunities to discover available positions and understand the application process, particularly at the outset of their careers. I strongly encourage students and job seekers to attend these exhibitions to familiarize themselves with the participating institutions. Engaging with specialists allows them to ask a variety of questions, gain insights into different fields and disciplines, and learn about the market's requirements." Bank Muscat acknowledges that a skilled and highly engaged work-

force is key to driving productivity and maintaining a competitive edge in the market. The Bank has made significant progress in this area, achieving a remarkable 92.38% Omanisation rate through the implementation of well-structured talent development programmes. Throughout the year, the Bank successfully recruited over 401 talented Omani individuals. Additionally, Jadara Academy organized more than 525 training programmes and online modules, resulting in the utilization of 46,737 training seats and a total of 51,354 training man-days. With regard to training, the Bank provided 637 training opportunities to students in cooperation with various higher education institutions. The Bank is committed to continuing this effective approach to human resource development by providing advanced training programs and a stimulating work environment that contributes to enhancing the skills and competencies of employees.

SHARIA-COMPLIANT SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Dhofar Islamic’s Ladies Account enables women to achieve their financial aspirations

MUSCAT: Designed exclusively for ladies, Dhofar Islamic's ladies Account — the Sharia-compliant savings account under BankDhofar's Islamic banking window—is built on the Mudharaba principle. It aims to empower women financially, enabling them to make informed decisions and achieve their aspirations. With a strong commitment to supporting ladies's financial independence, Dhofar Islamic offers exclusive benefits, including special rates on financing and deposits, ensuring that ladies receive competitive returns for their personal or business financial needs. Through its Ladies Banking services, Dhofar Islamic provides ladies with a range of tailored benefits, such as the ease of opening an account via mobile banking, a monthly return based on the Mudharaba account balance, and competitive financing rates. Amer bin Said Al Amri, DGM and Head of Retail Banking at Dhofar Islamic, highlighted the bank's commitment to inclusivity, stating: "Dhofar Islamic is characterized by diversity, inclusiveness, and meeting the needs of all segments of society. Therefore, the



Ladies Account is committed to providing ladies in the Sultanate of Oman with the financial tools that enable them to achieve their future aspirations and ambitions." The Ladies Account offers more than just banking services. Customers also gain access to exclusive benefits on credit cards, including loyalty points under the Dhofar Islamic Rewards Pro-

gram, discounts at select stores, and privileges that enhance their lifestyle. In addition to financial products, the account provides financial guidance and advisory support, enabling ladies to plan effectively for their future. Dhofar Islamic continues to expand its footprint in Oman's Islamic banking sector. Its network now includes 25 branches across

the Sultanate, complemented by over 400 self-service terminals, including ATMs, CDMs, and MDMs, serving both BankDhofar and Dhofar Islamic customers. The bank remains committed to following the best international practices in Islamic banking while offering innovative solutions that align with Sharia principles and meet the evolving needs of its customers.

FOR RAMADAN



Aloft Muscat unveils enticing Iftar experience

MUSCAT: As the sacred month of Ramadan commences, Aloft Muscat invites guests to gather with loved ones and indulge in a memorable Iftar experience at TheBackstage. The Backstage offers a distinctive Ramadan ambience, creating the perfect setting for a delightful evening. Guests can savor a rich selection of exquisite dishes, from live cooking stations to unique desserts and

refreshing beverages. Details & Timings: Available from sunset until 22:00. "Ramadan is a time for reflection, connection, and celebration," said Ramy Hamdoun, General Manager of Aloft Muscat. "We are proud to offer a thoughtfully curated Iftar experience that reflects the spirit of this special month, bringing people together over delicious food and warm hospitality."



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