

**RARE SURGICAL OPERATION
AT ROYAL HOSPITAL**

A surgical team from the Royal Hospital Paediatric Surgery has succeeded in performing a rare surgery for an eight-month-old baby with Foetus in Fetu condition. **>A5**



**CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER
ARRIVES IN THE SULTANATE**

MUSCAT: Wang Yi, State Councillor and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China and his accompanying delegation arrived yesterday on an official visit to the Sultanate. **>A5**



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FIGHTING PANDEMIC

Night lockdown begins



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Shops closed early and people made sure they reached home by 8 pm, as Oman's lockdown came into effect on Sunday evening.

During the lockdown, brought in to stop the spread of COVID-19, and is likely to run until Thursday, April 8, people are banned from leaving their homes, and vehicles are not permitted to travel on roads between 8 pm and 5 am.

"I ask the owners of companies

and shops in the country to close early, and allow their employees to leave sufficient time to reach their homes by 8 pm," said Brigadier General Mohammed bin Nasser Al Kindi, Director General of Operations, Royal Oman Police. "Citizens and residents must finish their work before the movement ban comes into effect.

"Incidents of violating these rules will be registered against those who do so," he added. "The movement ban is designed to pre-

vent people from leaving their homes under any means."

The ROP also asked people in the country to alert them regarding incidents of people not following the rules of the Supreme Committee to deal with COVID-19.

Exceptions

The operations centre of the ROP can be reached by calling 1099. The centre has been tasked with following round-the-clock coronavirus-related developments in the coun-

try. There are, however, certain exceptions to the movement ban, according to Brig. Gen. Al Kindi.

"To make sure that basic services are not affected during the time that movement is not permitted, and businesses are closed, emergency vehicles involved in the maintenance of electricity, water, and communication networks, cleaning and sanitation teams, ambulances, and trucks heavier than three tonnes will be permitted to travel outdoors," he said. **>A3**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN National programme for organ transplant

1 Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Health has issued a ministerial decision to establish the National Programme for Regulating the transfer and transplantation of human organs and tissues. The aim is to achieve established principles in the said field of transplantation of human organs and tissues, contributing to the development of clinical scientific research. **>A3**



WORLD 321 vessels jammed around Suez Canal

2 At least 321 vessels were jammed around Suez Canal awaiting salvage of stuck container ship Ever Given which is blocking the vital waterway since Tuesday, Osama Rabie, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA), said. "The number of ships waiting now, whether in the north, the south or in the Lakes is 321. We provide them with all the logistic services they ask for," the SCA chief said. **>A7**

MARKET Madayn signs pact on green permits

3 The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates – Madayn has signed a cooperation programme with the Environment Authority to facilitate procedures for the investors and business owners in all industrial cities to obtain the necessary environmental permits for their projects through Madayn's Masar Service Centre and in accordance with the provisions of the regulations on environmental permits. **>B1**



Oman's bilateral agreements with countries that provide workers help ensure their human rights and dignity are maintained, and that they are protected from trafficking

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Perpetrators of human trafficking take part in such activities because they care more about profiting through unethical methods than actually caring for people who travel overseas in search

of a better life and good economic opportunities.

Last year, the National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT) foiled seven cases of people smuggling, and handed out sentences to two people guilty of the crime.



Sayyid Ammar Abdullah Al Busaidi

"One defendant was sentenced to prison for three years, and imposed a fine of OMR5,000, while the second was sentenced to five-year in jail, and a fine of OMR5,000 was imposed," said Sayyid Ammar Abdullah Al Busaidi, First Secretary of the Foreign Ministry and the Supervisor of Human Trafficking at National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT), who oversees the country's efforts to stop human trafficking.

"Oman has rescued victims in the Sultanate who are from a number of countries," he added. "Traffickers are not mindful about a person's nationality, they only look for the maximum profit they can make from such activities."

Al Busaidi, who is also a supervisor on the NCCHT, added that

many international organisations work with national governments to curb human trafficking. In the case of Oman, these include foreign embassies in the country, regional partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

As part of these efforts, and to increase protection to people living in the country – citizens and expatriates alike – Oman has signed a number of bilateral agreements with countries that provide them workers. These help protect them from trafficking, and protect their human rights and enable them to live with dignity.

"Human trafficking is a crime that involves the use of force, fraud or coercion against individuals to

acquire them as a form of labour, or force them into commercial sex acts," said Al Busaidi. "Every year, millions of men, women, and children are victims of trafficking worldwide, including in Oman."

"This crime can take place within any community, and can affect victims of any age, race, gender, or nationality," he added. "Traffickers resort to violence, manipulation or false promises of well-paying jobs or romantic relationships to lure victims into these situations."

To raise awareness about the perils of human trafficking to those who are kidnapped, as well as the impact they have on their families, and society at large, the NCCHT has launched a new campaign, fittingly called 'Insan' (Arabic for 'man' or 'human'). **>A3**

OPAZ INITIATIVE

Procedures for obtaining environmental permits in special economic and free zones issued

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A decision regarding the controls for organising and issuing environmental permits in the special economic zones and free zones in Oman was issued by Dr Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ), on Sunday.

The controls have specified the procedures for obtaining environmental permits, as well as identified the projects that require preparing a detailed environmental



assessment study for their potential impacts, Lubna bint Hamoud Al Sabari, Environmental Specialist at the OPAZ, said.

According to the decision, the projects established in the special economic zones and free zones have been classified into three categories based on their impacts to the environment and health of human beings, their nature, location, materials used in production and production capacity.

The First Category projects are required to submit their environmental and social impacts as-

essment study. Among the most prominent projects of this category are those related to the development and management of industrial plans, logistics storage sites, fishing ports and fish industries complexes, tourist villages with an area of 10 hectares or more, chemicals and oil storage tanks of around 5 hectares and more.

It also includes heavy industries, oil refineries, chemical and petrochemical industries, power plants, seawater desalination plants with a production capacity of over one million cubic metres per year. **>A5**



PRAYER
TIMINGS

Dhuhr	12.17pm
Asr	3.44pm
Maghrib	6.26pm
Isha	7.37pm
Fajr (Tomorrow)	4.46am

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Oman Air saved 7.8 million kg of aviation fuel in 2019

The significant reductions were achieved by making flight operations more efficient through fuel-saving initiatives and by inducting the latest aircraft technology



FUEL-SAVING INITIATIVES: Oman Air strives continuously to maintain the highest standards of performance in all aspects of its operations, including sustainable initiatives.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, saved 7.8 million kg of jet fuel, the equivalent of 24.6 million kg of emissions in 2019.

The significant reductions were achieved by making flight operations more efficient through fuel-saving initiatives and the latest

aircraft technology, according to Oman Air.

Multi-award-winning Oman Air strives continuously to maintain the highest standards of performance in all aspects of its operations, including sustainable initiatives. Its fleet comprises ultra-modern, fuel-

efficient aircraft renowned for their aesthetically designed interiors, with innovative in-flight service equipment delivering exceptional onboard safety and performance.

Ongoing investment in the latest technologies, planning and product innovation has helped

propel Oman Air to the forefront of modern aviation.

The national carrier joined individuals, businesses and organisations around the world to mark Earth Hour 2021 at 08:30 pm to 9:30 pm local time on Saturday. This year's ceremony was toned down to respect COVID-19 safety

measures, with lights switched off symbolically at the company's headquarters in Muscat, coinciding with network destination outstations.

"Tackling climate change is a priority issue for airlines around the world and continues to shape the future of eco-efficient air transport," said Oman Air CEO Abdulaziz Al Raisi.

"Oman Air has always championed the cause of climate change by prioritizing a fleet of ultra-efficient aircraft, implementing fuel-saving initiatives, and reducing waste across our business operations. As we mark Earth Hour 2021, we hereby renew our commitment to responsible travel and reducing our environmental footprint in the years ahead."

Started by WWF and partners as a symbolic lights-out event in Sydney, Australia in 2007, Earth Hour is now one of the world's largest grassroots movements for the environment. Held every year on the last Saturday of March, Earth Hour engages millions of people in more than 180 countries and territories, switching off their lights to show support for our planet.

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Application for admission begins

MUSCAT: The Unified admission centre at the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, announced opening the door for submission of applications for higher education establishments for the Academic Year 2021/2022.

All holders of general education diploma or equivalent qualification for the school year 2020/2021 shall register with the unified admission centre through the website (www.hac.gov.om) and other means for registration provided, during the period from 1 May to 1 July 2021.

The Unified Admission Centre would issue the student's manual for admission to the higher education institutions for the academic year 2021/2022.

As students have not sat for the first semester exams, they may register online for the study programmes of their interests if they meet the terms for subjects of specialisations and the marks they expect to achieve.

Every year the Unified Admission Centre provides the students with opportunity to register in the online system before announcement of the results of general education diploma as to enable them take advice and guidance from others in selection of the modules /subjects. —ONA

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TOKYO OLYMPIC GAMES

Oman Sail to host Olympic qualifiers for the first time

MUSCAT: Oman Sail is set to host sailing competitions for qualifying to the Olympic Games 2021 in Tokyo, under the name 'Al Mussanah Open Sail Championship' from April 1 to 4 April.

The Olympic qualifiers will be organised for the first time in the Sultanate with the participation of the national sailing team with the purpose to qualify for

the Olympic Games scheduled in Japan.

COVID-19 pandemic
Following the postponement of the qualifiers several times, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the International Sailing Federation has chosen the Sultanate to host the event pursuant to the international standards the Sultan-

ate enjoys in terms of regulating the event besides the expertise Oman Sail acquired in hosting the GCC and international marine events during the past years.

100 sailors
The event would see the participation of 100 sailors from 16 Asian and African countries. — ONA

Trending
ON SOCIAL MEDIA

MOST READ ON FACEBOOK

59,293 REACH Oman

A number of activities have been permitted to run during the night time lockdown.

Some activities exempted from the night lockdown regulations

A story on exemptions to night lockdown reached 59,293 people and had 19,583 engagements on Facebook.

MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

4,508 VIEWS

Quarantine rules for children entering

The Morning Minute video on quarantine rules for children had 4,508 views and 235 likes on Instagram.

MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

5,800 VIEWS

MIDDAY UPDATE

AFRICA'S COVID-19 CASES NEAR 4.17 MLN: AFRICA CDC

The Midday Update video got 5,800 views and reached 15,500 people on Facebook.



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LOCKDOWN

< FROM A1 Patrols to monitor

ROP-manned checkpoints will be set up across the country, and patrols will be out on the streets to make sure the decisions of the Supreme Committee are observed. Aerial surveillance teams will also be monitoring the country from the skies, to make sure people maintain social distancing, and do not gather in large numbers.

“Employees in the country’s airports, refineries, and ports, medical staff and health workers are also permitted to move outside,” said Al Kindi.

“Travellers arriving to and departing from the Sultanate can also leave their homes during this period, along with a single person to accompany them, provided they are carrying the necessary travel documents.”

This extends to media professionals whose nature of job requires them to stay at work, teams from the Relief and Shelter Sector in the governorates, and imams from mosques.

Human organ transplant programme established

The decision establishing the programme was issued by the Minister of Health



Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Health.

MUSCAT: Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Health, issued a decision establishing the National Programme for Human Organ Transfer and Transplant.

The programme aims to enforce prescribed principles in the field of transferring and

transplanting human organs and tissues, developing clinical research and implementing the recommendations of the technical committee tasked with regulating the profession.

This specialised national programme tackles one of the most

sophisticated areas (human organ transfer and transplant) that poses the greatest challenge to health systems and requires co-ordination between different departments and specialists to find solutions to the challenges.

Sole means

Transplanting alternative organs is considered the sole means of saving the life of patients suffering total organ failure, when donation remains the only option provided exclusively by people allowing re-use of their kidneys and livers during their life or after death.

Public collaboration is needed to encourage organ donation to save the life of about 3,000 patients suffering total kidney failure and relying on dialysis. A live donor has a chance to save the life of eight such patients. -ONA

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

< FROM A1 ‘Traffickers operate on basis of greed’

“Oman is no different from any other country when it comes to human trafficking,” Al Busaidi revealed.

“Traffickers operate on the basis of greed and take advantage of people who suffer from poverty and are in search of a better life. Every year prosecutions are carried out over people who take part in immoral activities in Oman.”

Labour trafficking

“Labour trafficking is also an occurrence here, but it is a lot more difficult to detect. Oman has been very fortunate in the sense that no Omani citizens have been victims of human trafficking. In most countries, it is a common trend for traffickers to commit this crime against the country’s citizens, since the need to pay for them to be transported to another location does not arise,” he added.



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WHAT TO DO DURING NIGHT LOCKDOWN

DECLUTTERING YOUR WARDROBE

If you truly want to have a neat and organised wardrobe, you must keep your emotional attachment to your clothes aside and get a bit ruthless.

While cleaning and decluttering our home is part of our daily life, now with this extra time that you are getting owing to the night lockdown it is time to review your home, especially your wardrobes ... the perfect place to begin your decluttering. When it comes to your clothes decluttering gets all the more daunting and difficult as you are all emotionally attached with your clothes and getting rid of them is bound to make you feel guilty and sad as well. Your wardrobe has clothes of many kinds ... some that you have hardly worn, some that you do not want to give away, and some that you have outgrown but still store in the hope to fit into them once again. So you don't know where to start. Whatever the reason be, remember that if you truly want to have a neat and organised wardrobe you need to keep your emotional attachment aside and get a bit ruthless. Sort out the clothes that you want to keep and those that you don't wear anymore. After all, the benefits of a smaller, simplified wardrobe are plenty. It helps you to get dressed quicker, easier, with fewer decisions and less stress. So get ready and clear the clutter from your wardrobe.

Start by setting a limit for the number of dresses you actually want to keep. Might be a tough call but no harm in trying, isn't it?

To simplify your job you can actually keep a set number of hangers and that way you get to limit your clothes accordingly. You can also categorise the clothing according to your requirements and preferences.

Another way to make decluttering easier is to keep track of all the clothes that you have not worn, say in the last 6 months. If you did not use them in six months time, most likely you won't be using them again. This list should not include the seasonal wear.

In fact the easiest way to differentiate between what to keep and what not to, is to separate your closet into two sections, one side for clothes that you regularly wear and one side for those that you rarely wear or rather don't wear at all. Alongside maintain a declutter box where you regularly stock clothes that have remained idle in the 'rarely wear' section. Ensure that you store holiday clothes, special occasion attire and seasonal clothes away from your everyday wardrobe - those that get worn once a year. Also look for clothes you are bored with.

While all these might sound difficult, the truth is decluttering your wardrobe now will not only give you more wardrobe space but also when the pandemic is over you can shop for the trendy clothes to your heart's content and you'll have that much desired space for your future shopping.



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CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN OMAN

Wang Yi, State Councilor and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China and his accompanying delegation arrived here on an official visit to the Sultanate on Sunday. The Chinese guest and his accompanying delegation were received upon their arrival by Dr Khalid Said Al Jaradi, Head of the Protocols Department in the Foreign Ministry. - **ONA**



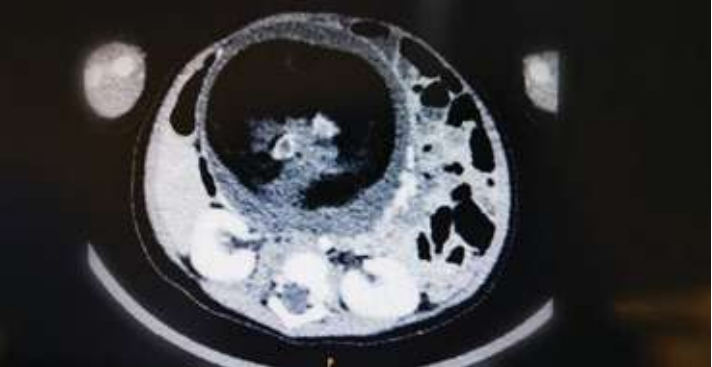
ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITS



SAFE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES: The Department also develops guidelines for all phases of the chemicals safe management procedures and compiles an inventory of banned and restricted chemicals and those dealing with these chemicals. - **ONA**

EIGHT-MONTH-OLD BABY

Royal Hospital team performs rare surgery



RARE FEAT: The surgical team was led by Dr. Mohammed Al-Sajwani, Head of Paediatric Surgery of Royal Hospital, along with three paediatric surgeons; Dr. Said Bani Oraba, Dr. Mahmood Ibrahim and Dr. Mohammed Hamid, with the cooperation of anesthetists and nurses. - **ONA**

< FROM
A1

OPAZ seeks to facilitate procedures for investors

Fish farming projects with a production capacity of more than 500 tonnes per year for the localised fish and any quantity of unusual species also come in its ambit.

The Second Category includes projects with medium environmental risk, which require submitting an environmental management plan.

However, the Third Category is for projects with low environmental risk, requiring compliance with the specified general and technical environmental requirements, while submitting an environmental and social impact assessment study or an environmental management plan is not required.

Lubna Al Sabari, said, "Through this decision, OPAZ is intending to facilitate the procedures for investors and accelerate the issuance of environmental permits. For instance, the environmental permits for projects falling into the second and third categories are issued prior to establishing the projects."

"These permits will be issued in five working days for the Third Category projects, while it takes 10 working days for the Second Category projects. However, for the projects that require developing an environmental assessment study, it takes a maximum of 30 working days for reviewing the environmental permit applications," she added.

"This process serves to avoid the negative impacts of such projects, which require a thorough evaluation before granting the environmental permit."

In accordance with the decision, the concerned Environmental Regulatory Department at the OPAZ shall categorise all chemicals based on the international classifications, including the global system for classification and labelling of chemicals.



MUSCAT: A surgical team from the Royal Hospital Paediatric Surgery has succeeded in performing a rare surgery for an eight-month-old baby with Foetus in Fetu condition. The surgical team was led by Dr. Mohammed Al-Sajwani, Head of Paediatric Surgery of Royal Hospital, along with three paediatric surgeons; Dr. Said Bani Oraba, Dr. Mahmood Ibrahim and Dr. Mohammed Hamid, with the cooperation of anesthetists and nurses.

Post-surgery
The patient's post-surgery examinations and vital signs showed success and she was discharged after three days.

"Foetus in Fetu" is a rare medical phenomenon that is estimated to occur in 1 in 500,000 live births. - **ONA**

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CORONAVIRUS

Over 3,000 COVID deaths in Brazil for 2 consecutive days

RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazil recorded 3,438 deaths from COVID-19 on Saturday, said the country's Ministry of Health.

It is the second consecutive day that Brazil has reported more than 3,000 daily deaths, and the third since the disease was first detected in the country in February last year.

Brazil recorded 3,650 deaths



on Friday, the highest daily count since the outbreak of the pandemic.

The death toll from COVID-19 in the country now stands at 310,550, according to ministry data.

Meanwhile, the ministry reported 85,948 new cases in the last 24 hours, bringing the national caseload to 12,490,362.

Brazil is currently one of the

global epicenters of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the world's second-worst outbreak in terms of both deaths and infections, only after the United States.

Brazil had vaccinated 19.5 million people against COVID-19 as of Friday, of which 14.88 million had received the first dose and 4.64 million had got both jabs, according to local media. **xinhua**

Defence chiefs of twelve countries condemn deaths of protesters in Myanmar

The military chiefs called on Myanmar's armed forces to cease violence



NAYPYITAW: Defence chiefs from 12 different countries on Sunday jointly decried violence in Myanmar a day earlier, which saw military forces open fire on anti-coup protesters, killing at least 100 people.

The US, Britain, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea and Japan issued the statement, a day after Myanmar's deadliest day of protests since the military coup in February.

"We condemn the use of lethal force against unarmed people by the Myanmar Armed Forces and associated security services," the statement read.

The military chiefs called on Myanmar's armed forces to cease

violence and work to "restore respect and credibility with the people of Myanmar, that it has lost through its actions."

"A professional military follows international standards for conduct and is responsible for protecting — not harming — the people it serves."

How have other leaders reacted?

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said he was

shocked by the events.

"The continuing military crackdown is unacceptable and demands a firm, unified & resolute international response," he wrote on Twitter.

In the United States, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a tweet that his country was "horrified by the bloodshed perpetrated by Burmese security forces, showing that the junta will sacrifice the lives of the people to serve the few."

A bloody Armed Forces Day celebration

Myanmar's military celebrated Armed Forces Day on Saturday with parades and speeches, despite the non-stop protests against its seizure of power last month.

Estimated death tolls of Saturday's bloody events, which also saw several children killed, are difficult to independently verify.

A tally by the independent Myanmar Now news portal reported 114 people killed across 44 towns and cities, while a count by The Irrawaddy put the toll at 59 dead, among them three children aged 7, 10 and 13 years.

The total death toll since the coup is now over 420, according to local monitoring group Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP).

Funeral services were also held on Sunday for some of the victims of Saturday's events.

"Junta forces shot machine guns into residential areas, resulting in many civilians, including six children between ten and sixteen years old, killed," AAPP said. "The fact the illegitimate military regime is targeting children is a grave act of inhumanity." **bnw**



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BOMBING IN CHURCH

Several injured in suicide bombing in Indonesia

JAKARTA: A Catholic cathedral in Indonesia's South Sulawesi province was rocked by a suicide bombing on Sunday, police said.

The blast, in the city of Makassar, wounded 14 people including church workers and worshippers, officials said.

They added that two attackers were likely responsible. One of them detonated his explosives and died near the gate.

The congregation had been inside the church at the time of the explosion, South Sulawesi police spokesman E. Zulpan told Reuters.

"We see that there are victims and parts of human bodies have been torn apart. We do not know yet whether they are from the perpetrator or from the people who were close by," he said.

Kompas TV broadcast video footage purportedly showing the moment the explosion happened.

Priest describes bombing

Father Wilhemus Tulak, a priest at the church, told local media that the suspected bombers tried to enter the church grounds on motorbikes, but had been stopped by a security guard.

He said some of those wounded were in serious condition.

Video from the scene showed police had set up a cordon around the church and cars parked nearby were damaged.

No claim of responsibility

The blast took place at 10:28 a.m. local time (0328 a.m. UTC/GMT) on Palm Sunday, the first day of the Easter holy week, which commemorates Jesus's entry into Jerusalem.

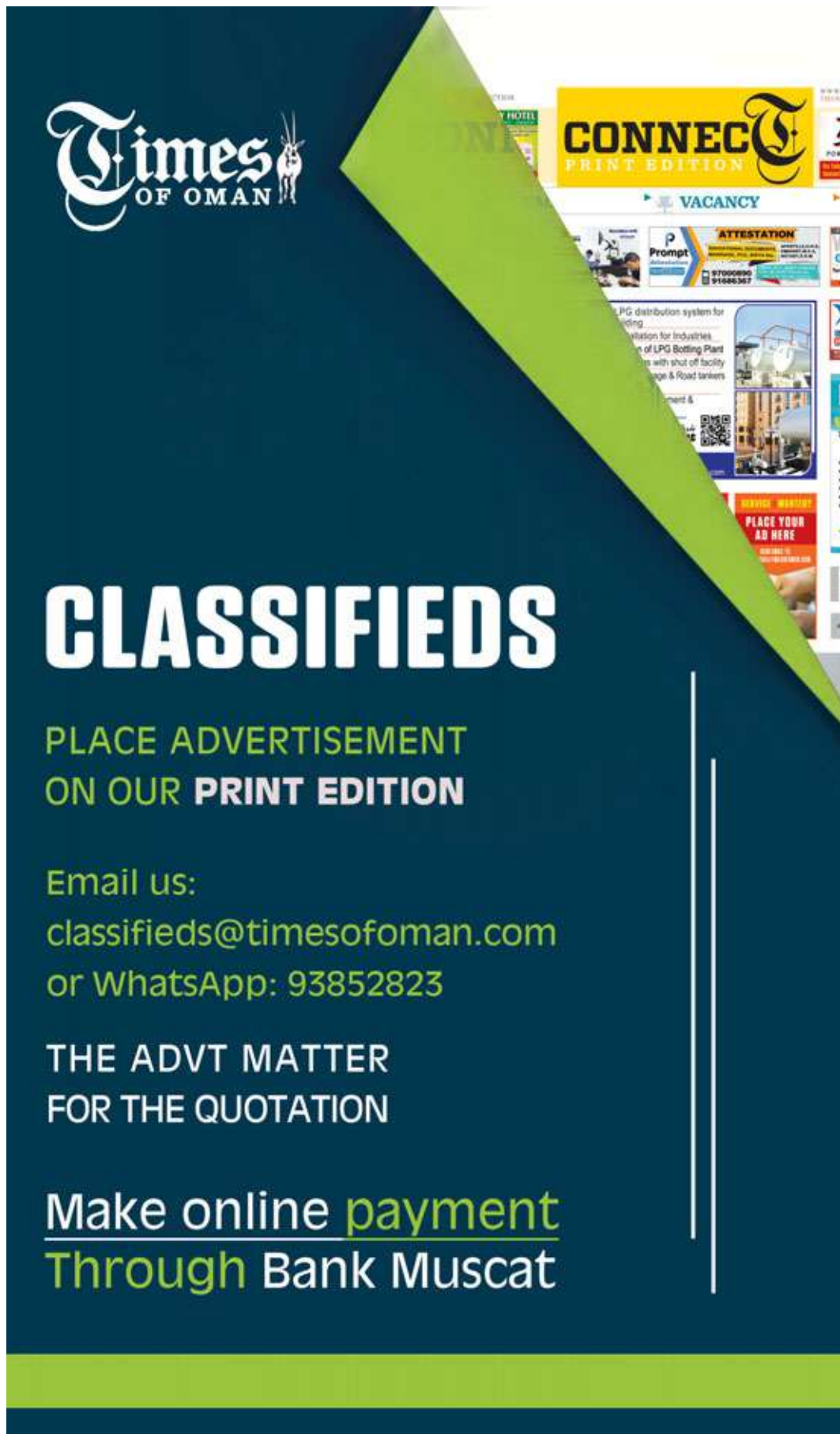
Police did not say who might be responsible for the apparent attack and there was no immediate claim of responsibility.

The city's Mayor Danny Pomanto said the blast could have caused far more casualties if it had taken place at the church's main gate instead of a side entrance.

Makassar is Indonesia's fifth-largest urban center after Jakarta, Surabaya, Bandung and Medan, with a population of 1.5 million.

Churches have been targeted previously by extremists in Indonesia, the world's biggest Muslim-majority nation.

In 2018, a dozen people were killed when a family of suicide bombers blew themselves up at churches during Sunday services in the second-biggest city Surabaya. **bnw**



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321 vessels jammed around Suez Canal as salvage of container ship underway

14 tug boats are working to salvage Ever Given from all directions

SUEZ: At least 321 vessels are currently jammed around Egypt's Suez Canal awaiting salvage of the giant container ship Ever Given that has been stuck and blocking the vital waterway since Tuesday, Osama Rabie, chairman of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA), said on Saturday.

"The number of ships waiting now, whether in the north, the south or in the Lakes is 321. We provide them with all the logistic services they ask for," the SCA chief told a press conference in the northeastern province of Suez.

"It's difficult to tell when the problem will be solved, because,



as I said, the ship is huge with a large load and it is stuck in a shallow area," Rabie said.

He pointed out that 14 tug boats are working to salvage Ever Given from all directions.

"Last night, there were signs of success ... to the point that we were very hopeful that the salvage will be completed last night," The SCA chief said, adding authority is prepared with several scenarios to refloat the mega ship that causes "a big crisis."

The 224,000-tonne Panama-

flagged Ever Given was grounded on Tuesday in the canal after losing the ability to steer amid high winds and a sandstorm, which led the SCA to announce on Thursday temporary suspension of navigation in the man-made waterway.

Rabie said there will be investigation into the exact cause of the accident but after the rescue process is done.

Dutch firm Boskalis with its emergency response team Smit Salvage is hired by Ever Given's

owner to assist the SCA in the rescue operations.

Linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea, the Suez Canal is a major lifeline for global seaborne trade since it allows ships to travel between Europe and South Asia without navigating around Africa, thereby reducing the sea voyage distance between Europe and India by about 7,000 km.

Some 12 percent of the world trade volume passes through the Suez Canal. [xinhua](#)

One dead, six injured in Canada's Vancouver after mass stabbing

VANCOUVER: One person was killed and six were hospitalised after multiple stabbing in the North Vancouver city library of Canada on Saturday (local time).

According to Toronto Sun news, a woman has died and multiple people were taken to hospital after a mass stabbing took place in the Lynn valley Library in North Vancouver. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said "multiple victims" were stabbed both inside and outside the North Vancouver Library and a suspect is in custody and RCMP said there is no ongoing threat to the public, reported the Toronto Sun news.

Sergeant Frank Jang of the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) confirmed a woman died of her injuries and a male suspect in his 20s is in custody. No other information is available about the other victims or the severity of their injuries.

Jang further said, "the suspect had previous interactions with police and has a criminal record," he further added, "the motive of the crime is unknown."

Several tweets were made showing videos captured by the locals of the harrowing crime where multiple officers restraining a man on the ground after he appeared to cut himself before collapsing, Toronto Sun news reported. Another such local, Ethan Jackson who works at a dental office near the library, reported he heard a woman scream and when he later looked out of the window he saw a man lying on the ground covering his face.

"There was blood around the man and he was being treated by paramedics," Jackson also added.

Amy Robertson of B.C. Emergency Health Services said first responders transported the patients to the hospital after receiving a call at 1:46 p.m. on Saturday, read the Toronto Sun news. She said 11 ambulances and two supervising vehicles were deployed to the scene. Robertson wasn't able to release details on the condition of the patients. Media spokesperson and Homicide detective, Sergeant Jang (IHIT), said investigators are asking for any video footage taken by witnesses at the scene, and are urging those who filmed the violence and the victims not to upload anything to social media but to provide it to the police instead. [ANI](#)

CORONAVIRUS

Merkel's top aide warns of vaccine-resistant mutations

BERLIN: Germany must bring down coronavirus infections in the next few weeks or risk new virus mutations that are resistant to vaccines, Chancellor Angela Merkel's chief of staff Helge Braun told a newspaper.

"We are in the most dangerous phase of the pandemic," he added. "The next few weeks will determine whether we can foreseeably get the pandemic under control."

If the number of infections rises rapidly again, there is a growing danger that the next virus mutation will become resistant to the vaccine, Braun said.

"Then we would need new vaccines, then we would have to start vaccinating all over again,"

he pointed out.

Curfews and testing

To curb the virus' spread, Braun called for the imposition of stricter measures and night-time curfews in regions with high numbers of new infections.

He spoke out in favor of additional curbs in regions where the number of cases per 100,000 people in the last seven days is more than 100. "That's where regional curfews in the evening and at night can help, because we have the highest infection rates at meetings in people's homes."

He also stressed the importance of testing in reducing virus transmission, urging firms to

compulsorily test their workers twice a week.

Speaking to a newspaper, Social Democratic Party (SPD) politician and public health expert Karl Lauterbach called on the federal and state governments to immediately implement a "hard lockdown," citing the sharp rise in infections.

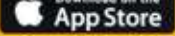
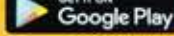
"It won't work without a hard lockdown," Lauterbach stressed, defending his call for nationwide curfews. "Curfew restrictions from 8 p.m. for two weeks would work — we've seen it in France, Britain and Portugal."

The sooner a decision was taken, the more lives would be saved, he said. [aw](#)



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT	STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 31 December 2020	
On behalf of myself and the members of the Board of Directors I am pleased to welcome your and so present to you the Board of Directors report for the period ended 31 December 2020 of Dhofar Tourism Company.	31 December 2020 RO	31 December 2019 RO
Performance during the period: Marriott Resort – Mirbat: All efforts have been exerted in order to maintain the company's stability and endure its developments and growth which has had a deep impact on the company's position and performance of the resort, where some of the available funds were invested in the capital expenditure of the resort, and which has strengthened the ability of the resort to maintain the classification level and to achieve attractive returns.	ASSETS	
	Non-current assets:	
	Fixtures and equipment	355,432 535,393
	Investment properties	56,670,000 56,200,000
	Total non-current assets	57,025,432 56,735,393
	Current assets:	
	Trade and other receivables	105,764 238,029
	Cash and cash equivalents	715,098 384,881
	Bank deposits	500,000 500,000
	Total current assets	1,320,862 1,122,910
	Total assets	58,346,294 57,858,303
	EQUITY AND LIABILITES	
	Capital and reserves:	
	Share capital	27,950,000 27,950,000
	Special reserve	80,848 80,848
	Legal reserve	448,607 426,630
	Revaluation reserve	33,869,198 33,869,198
	Accumulated losses	(11,017,236) (11,215,033)
	Total equity	51,331,417 51,111,643
	LIABILITES	
	Non-current liabilities:	
	Term loan	1,125,811 1,125,811
	Staff terminal benefits	13,109 18,875
	Deferred tax liability	5,218,477 4,897,009
	Total non-current liabilities	6,357,397 6,041,695
	Current liabilities:	
	Term loan	225,000 225,000
	Trade and other payables	432,480 479,965
	Total current liabilities	657,480 704,965
	Total liabilities	7,014,877 6,746,660
	Total equity and liabilities	58,346,294 57,858,303
	Net assets per share	1.837 1.829
	STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020	
Increase of company assets: The company assets has increased due to the revaluation of land owned by the company at Mirbat on December 2020, the market value of the land as on the date of valuation was (RO 41,500,000).	Year ended 31 December 2020 RO	Year ended 31 December 2019 RO
Futuristic Vision: Dhofar Tourism company goals and objectives are to extend all efforts along with Ministry of Tourism to enhance the tourism sector in general, we spare no effort in our company to contribute to the development of this vital sector by marketing the Master Plan, with our full awareness of the importance of the value added of this sector in the light of the current development plans in the governorate that will definitely have economic return on the local community by taking on bigger Labour Force of the local community and thus it will yield in the welfare of all.	Revenue	570,174
	Direct costs	(147,374) (31,572)
	Gross profit	236,376 538,602
	Other income	680,592 328,840
	Fair value gain on investment properties	100,000 1,218,284
	General and administrative expenses	(266,466) (293,936)
	Depreciation expenses	(182,824) (154,216)
	Profit from operations	567,678 1,637,574
	Finance costs - net	(26,436) (37,504)
	Profit before tax	541,242 1,600,070
	Income tax	(321,468) (273,372)
	Profit for the year	219,774 1,326,698
	Other comprehensive income for the year	- -
	Total comprehensive income for the year	219,774 1,326,698
	Earnings per share - basic and diluted	0.008 0.047
In this regard, we can only ask God to grant success to everyone to serve this dear homeland under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq the Great	Ahmed Bin Yousef Bin Alawi Al Ibrahim Chairman	

SPORTS



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Conway, Sodhi shine as NZ secure 66-run win

Conway's knock and Will Young's fifty powered NZ to a total of 210 before bowlers restricted Bangladesh to 144 runs



BANGLADESH VS NZ: With this win, New Zealand took a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

HAMILTON: Devon Conway's unbeaten 92-run knock followed by a sublime bowling performance by Ish Sodhi propelled New Zealand to a massive 66-run win against Bangladesh in the first T20I here on Sunday.

Conway's knock and Will Young's (53) fifty powered New Zealand to a total of 210 before bowlers restricted Bangladesh to 144 runs.

With this win, New Zealand took a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. Chasing the target, opener Mohammad Naim helped Bangladesh to begin on a high as the team scored 16 runs off the first two overs. However, the first wicket fell in the third over. Tim Southee dismissed Liton Das, who scored four runs.

Lockie Ferguson, in the fifth over, got hold of Naim (27). From

there on, the whole momentum shifted towards New Zealand's side as the visitors lost wickets in quick succession. Ish Sodhi picked two wickets in the sixth over before scalping two again in his next over. After the completion of eight overs, Bangladesh's score read 59/6.

Mohammad Saifuddin and Afif Hossain then took charge of the chase. Both mixed caution with aggression and provided some momentum to the team although the match had already slipped off Bangladesh's hands. Both formed a 63-run partnership before Ferguson dismissed Hossain (45).

Mohammad Saifuddin scored 10 runs off the final over,

bowed by Daryl Mitchell, as visitors scored 144 from their allotted overs.

After opting to bat first, New Zealand got off to a poor start with Finn Allen being sent back to the pavilion in the very first over of the innings on a duck. Martin Guptill was then joined by Devon Conway. Both played brilliantly and took the team over the 50-run mark in the seventh over but in the same over, Nasum Ahmed dismissed Guptill (35).

Will Young then came in the middle. Conway formed a magnificent partnership with Young and put New Zealand in control. Both struck regular boundaries and took the team's score past 100 in the 12 over. The duo kept

hitting boundaries and formed a 105-run partnership, with both completing their respective half-centuries.

Mahedi Hasan handed Bangladesh the much-needed breakthrough after he got hold of Young (53) in the 17th over. In the final overs, Conway and Glenn Phillips hit Bangladesh bowlers all around the park and took the team's total to 210. Conway scored 92 off just 52 balls while Phillips played a knock of 24 runs from 10 deliveries.

Brief scores: New Zealand 210/3 (Devon Conway 92*, Will Young 53; Nasum Ahmed 2/30); Bangladesh 144/8 (Afif Hossain 45, Mohammad Saifuddin 34*; Ish Sodhi 4/28). **ANI**



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BEST WISHES FROM RICHARDS

Get well soon Little Master: Vivian Richards wishes Sachin Tendulkar

NEW DELHI: Former West Indies player Vivian Richards has wished Sachin Tendulkar a speedy recovery after the latter tested positive for coronavirus.

“Wishing well and a very speedy recovery to my man @sachin_rt. Get well soon little master. You have prayers of billions around the world,” Richards tweeted. Former Indian cricketer and legendary batsman, Tendulkar, on Saturday announced that he has tested positive for COVID-19. Taking to social media, the Little Master had also informed that all other members at his home have returned a negative COVID-19 result.

“Have been testing myself and taking all the recommended precautions to ensure Covid is kept at bay. However, I've tested positive today following mild symptoms,” Tendulkar had said in a statement on Twitter.

“All others at home have tested negative. I've quarantined myself at home and am following all the necessary protocols as advised by



my doctors. I want to thank all the healthcare professionals who are supporting me and many others across the country. Take care all of you,” he had added.

Tendulkar, who recently led India Legends to a win in Road Safety World Series, was a member of India's World Cup 2011 winning team. He was the first man to score the coveted double century in ODI cricket, when he hit an unbeaten 200 against South Africa in February 2010.

In ODI cricket rankings, he was on top for a total of 112 matches or 354 days. **ANI**

ALLEGATION

Mohammad Asif alleges Waqar Younis used to cheat with ball

LAHORE: Former Pakistan bowler Mohammad Asif has alleged that Waqar Younis used to cheat with the ball in order to get more reverse swing.

In an explosive revelation, Asif has also alleged that Waqar did not know how to bowl with the new ball, and he only developed that skill during the twilight phase of his career.

In an interview with Pakistan channel ARY News, Asif said: “Waqar Younis used to cheat with the ball to do reverse swing. He did not know how to bowl with the new ball in most of his career. He learned a bit about bowling with the new ball in the twilight phase of his career.”

“People know Waqar as a master of reverse swing but he never developed a single bowler who could bowl a perfect reverse swing. These people are in coaching for the last 20 years but they never produced quality bowlers. They lack consistency in

making combinations. We have quantity, not quality bowlers,” he added.

Waqar Younis is currently the bowling coach of Pakistan's senior side. During his playing career, Waqar Younis finished with 373 wickets in Tests and 416 scalps in ODIs.

Younis had called time on his international career in 2003 and he is regarded as one of the finest bowlers to come out of Pakistan.

On the other hand, Asif's cricketing career came to a premature end in 2010 as he was found guilty in a spot-fixing scandal. He was found guilty of deliberately bowling no-balls during Pakistan's tour of England.

As a result, in 2011, the pacer was banned from the sport of cricket for seven years. Asif played 23 Tests, 38 ODIs, and 11 T20Is for Pakistan and the pacer managed to take 165 wickets across all formats. **ANI**

CRICKET ROUND-UP

A Division T20 League victories for ACT, Zawawi, ARTT and E&Y

MUSCAT: ACT upset table topper Sarco by 15 runs as the race for the eight-team A Division's T20 League title intensified with top four teams having 6 points each from 4 games and only net run rate separating them half way into the competition.

Sarco, Zawawi Powertech, ACT and ARTT have all won three matches out of four played so far in a tournament that continues to throw surprises as it nears completion.

ACT's win handed Sarco its first loss of the T20 league on Saturday. Jeethesha Shridhara picked up 5 for 25 to slow down ACT's charge towards a big total, restricting it to 176 for 8. Qasim Ali (47) and Ghufan Anjum (31) were its leading scorers at OC Turf1 in Amerat.

Sarco suffered early setback, slumping to 51 for 4 in first 9 overs and could manage to score 161 for 7 before it ran out of overs. Ajay Menon topscored with a 47-ball 74 that included 6 sixes.

Brief Scores (A Division T20): ACT 176 for 8 in 20 overs (Qasim Ali 47 - 6x6, Ghufan Anjum 31 - 4x4, 1x6, Jeethesha Shridhara 5-25) beat Sarco 161 for 7 in 20 overs (Ajay Menon 74 - 5x4, 6x6,



Toseef Ul-Hassan 3-24) by 15 runs.

Dharvesh stars in Zawawi win

In another A Division T20 League game, Dharvesh Asath's fantastic 52 helped second-placed Zawawi Powertech to a 29-run win over Basta CT at OC Turf 2 on Saturday.

Zawawi posted 153 for 9 on the board and then bowled Basta out for 124 in the final over. Vijeesh Channengadan and Yagnik Ashwin claimed three wickets each. Shahid Mahmood was Basta's

main scorer with 40 off 20 balls that included 3 sixes.

Brief Scores (A Division T20): Zawawi Powertech 153 for 9 in 20 overs (Dharvesh Asath 52 - 4x4, 3x6, Shihab Said 2-25) beat Basta CT 124 all out in 19.4 overs (Shahid Mehmood 40 - 1x4, 3x6. Vijeesh Channengadan 3-10, Yagnik Ashwin 3-18) by 29 runs.

ARTT beat Awtad

Arabain Region Trave and Tourism (ARTT) added another win to their credit, beating Awtad International by 4 wickets in an A Division T20

League match at OC Turf 2. Vijayanand Dhayanandan's 74 not out was the highlight of Awtad's 140 for 7 which ARTT chased down in the final over, scoring 145 for 6 thanks to vital knocks by Shehbaz Nasar (31) and Aqil Khan (27).

Mohammed Moshin was the most impressive bowler for ARTT, taking 2 for 13 in his four overs. Mohammed Irfan, Sunil Baby and Sujithkumar took two wickets each for Awtad.

Krishnan, Issa steer E&Y to victory

Krishnan Karthik's 38 and Issa Al Balushi's 3 for 12 were the highlights of Ernst and Young's (E&Y) 32-run victory against OCT Muscat in the same competition at OC Turf 2.

E&Y was dismissed for 120 in 19.5 overs, Krishnan (38) and Omar Sarfraz (30 not out) being the main scorers. Muhammed Aslam picked up 3 for 11.

OCT Muscat failed to chase the modest target, managing to score only 88 for 8 in 20 overs due to brilliant bowling by Issa and Amir Hussain (3 for 20). Rashad Mohammed topscored with 35.

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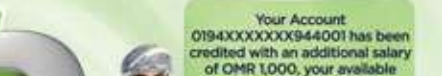
FOOTBALL

Ronaldo storms off pitch after denied goal

BELGRADE: Fumed over being denied a goal in the final moments of the game against Serbia, Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo threw his captain's armband on the floor and stormed off the pitch before the final whistle.

During the World Cup qualifier on Sunday, Diogo Jota scored twice in the first half, putting Portugal 2-0 ahead in the game. However, in the second half, Serbia managed to level the scores with the help of goals from Aleksandar Mitrovic and Filip Kostic.

In the dying minutes of the match, Ronaldo saw his effort was cleared by Serbia defender Stefan Mitrovic after it had crossed the line. While his strike was deemed to have not crossed the line, the television replays showed that the ball had clearly crossed the line. **ANI**



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A pact was signed to facilitate procedures for the investors in all industrial cities to obtain the necessary environmental permits for their projects

MUSCAT: A cooperation programme was signed to facilitate procedures for the investors and business owners in all industrial cities to obtain the necessary en-



COLLABORATION: The agreement was signed by Dr Abdullah bin Ali Al Amri, Chairman of the Environment Authority, and Hilal bin Hamad Al Hasani, Chief Executive Officer of Madayn. - Supplied picture

The pact was inked between the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn) with the Environment Authority in accordance with the provisions of the regulations organising the issuance of environmental permits. The agreement was signed by Dr Ab-

Al Amri emphasised that the cooperation programme with Madayn aims at facilitating and simplifying procedures for the investors through providing a specialised environmental team of the authority who will be present on

On her part, Ibtisam bint Ahmed Al Farooji, Director General of Investor Services at Madayn, commented that the cooperation programme comes along the lines of the objectives of Madayn Vision 2040 to manage and operate world-class business cities with an emphasis placed on environmental standards.

Intellectual property protection important for Oman's domestic products: MoCIIP

It also called on all relevant au-

Fatima bint Khalfan Al Baloushi, a biotechnology patent specialist in the Intellectual Property Department at MoCIIP pointed out some examples of products that may be under a national collective mark with a symbol that refers to the geographical region from which it gained its reputation, such as: Omani Halwa, Omani frankincense products, Al-Jabal Al-Akhdar products, plant varieties with a geographical indication that are rare and other authentic crafts like making ships and traditional foods.

STS wins PDO framework agreements - Major Step forward for Omanisation

Alex Clark, Managing Director, STS Group said: "These landmark contracts mark a new level of collaboration between PDO and STS. It builds upon a long-standing relationship that spans more than three decades and encompasses a significant



COLLABORATION: The signing took place at an official contract awards ceremony at PDO's Mina Al Fahal headquarters, which was attended by PDO Managing Director - Raoul Restucci and STS Group Managing Director - Alex Clark and Chief Executive Officer - Rejeesh Mani. - [Supplied picture](#)

These contracts are **awarded for 7 years with an additional 3-year optional extension**. The scope of these contracts is mainly divided into four major services;

- a) Integrated Project Services,
- b) Integrated Support Services,

Rejeesh Mani, Chief Executive Officer, STS said: "This is a major milestone in the recogni-

"The mix of intellectual capital, investment in human capital, field knowledge, proven HSE and Quality Systems, ICV initiatives, trained Nationals across the board, established industrial facilities and camps as well as our large fleet of sophisticated construction equipment makes STS a key differentiator as a service provider. We look forward to continuing to demonstrate our commitment to a sustainable and long-term presence in the Sultanate through the safe and timely delivery of these

STS along with Tebodin & Partner in Oman, part of Bilfinger, have been working for PDO under Engineering & Maintenance Contract (EMC) contract since 2011, providing engineering, construction and maintenance services, procurement support to PDO's oil and gas field development in the North of Oman.

Petroleum Development Oman

Further information about the group is available at **www.stso-man.com**

 MARKET

The report released by MSM

OMR3,000. — ONA

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up.....	Down.....	Equal.....	Sec. Traded
8,095,491.....	1,267,837.....	398.....	20,418,360,287.....	13.....	10.....	19.....	42.....

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
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OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO	1,225,084	56,763	56	0.044	0.048	0.044	0.046	0.044	0.002	4,545	-0.048	0.048	0.047	0.00	5,696,250
OM0000002590	ATILI BANK	20,000	2,200	1	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.002	1,107	0.110	0.108	0.109	0.00	15,740,000
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	23,000	2,415	3	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.103	0.002	1,942	0.105	0.094	0.105	0.00	31,616,801
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	12,280	8,792	1	0.716	0.716	0.716	0.716	0.708	0.008	2,310	0.716	0.000	0.716	0.00	43,872,900
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	99,331	9,544	13	0.097	0.097	0.095	0.096	0.095	0.001	1,053	-0.095	0.095	0.095	0.00	14,400,000
OM0000002437	HISBC BANK OMAN	29,000	2,950	1	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.001	1,099	0.109	0.109	0.109	0.00	14,400,000
OM0000002148	AL.NAWAR CERAMIC	568,547	175,132	20	0.308	0.310	0.308	0.308	0.306	0.002	1,454	-0.308	0.308	0.310	0.00	91,233,814
OM0000003143	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	194,393	28,867	9	0.148	0.150	0.148	0.148	0.148	0.000	0.000	-0.148	0.147	0.148	0.00	240,640,001
OM0000001569	DHOAF INT	54,000	14,796	1	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.000	0.000	-0.274	0.000	0.268	0.00	70,888,280
OM0000001700	OMAN CABLE INDSTR	10,000	2,480	1	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.000	0.000	-0.248	0.000	0.248	0.00	24,800,000
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM P	1,000	226	1	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.225	0.251	0.000	0.000	-0.226	0.000	0.251	0.00	10,442,923
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MRK	22	19	1	0.860	0.860	0.860	0.864	0.864	0.000	0.860	0.820	0.860	0.860	0.00	82,800,000
OM0000002032	UNITED TRADING	564	243	1	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.000	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.434	0.00	35,000,000
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	101,924	11,414	12	0.112	0.112	0.111	0.112	0.112	0.000	0.000	-0.112	0.112	0.110	0.00	9,137,108
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	3,960	178	2	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.000	0.000	-0.045	0.045	0.000	0.00	9,945,450
OM0000004735	SEMBOCOR SALAH	2,500	203	3	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.000	0.000	-0.081	0.081	0.083	0.00	77,320,328
OM0000004010	ALBATRAH POWER	25,000	6,500	2	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.000	-0.052	0.052	0.052	0.00	24,540,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	33,498	1,778	7	0.054	0.054	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.000	0.000	-0.053	0.053	0.054	0.00	37,883,536
OM0000005020	OMAN ARAB BANK	5,187	778	2	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.000	0.000	-0.150	0.150	0.165	0.00	290,411,500
OM0000005983	PHOENIX POWER	32,762	1,540	6	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.000	0.000	-0.047	0.046	0.047	0.00	68,722,269
OM0000007070	MCT DESALTATION	372	322	1	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.372	0.000	0.000	-0.372	0.372	0.372	0.00	37,200,000
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	200	64	1	0.318	0.318	0.318	0.322	0.322	0.000	0.000	-0.318	0.000	0.318	0.00	22,665,580
OM0000007910	OMAN REAL ESTATE	4,000	376	2	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094								

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01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 10

Dr Karim El Solh, CEO of Gulf Capital, said, "We are thrilled to back the strongest management and medical team within the IVF sector for its ambitious expansion in India. We are excited to be collaborating with ART Fertility's management to take this platform to the next level."

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Contact 92951654, 99332902

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Contact: 99657906 or 24702141

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CONTACT 91913008 / 99314556

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2BHK flats (with 5 split ACs) near Indian School Ghubra & Al Maha International Hotel. Contact: 99273774 / 99202278 Email: reachkvknair@gmail.com

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• **Technicians** (Engineering Diploma/Technical School and minimum 10 Years of experience in infrastructure projects).

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AAW & Partners LLC

Email: info@aaw.om / Fax: 24480998
 For Queries/Clarifications : 95300500

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Interested Candidates may forward their resume and credentials to info@sagarpolyclinic.com / call +968 24393636

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male fresh MBA graduate in finance seeking entry level placement as accountant/admin. D/L available. Contact 91209360 Email: amxrsad@gmail.com

Finance / Accounts - Male M.com, CFA Level One, DTM with 24 Years of experience in Oman. Accounting, Finance, Banking, Insurance, Logistics, Taxation, ERP. Join shortly by release. Contact 99668649, Email pac_3rd@yahoo.com

Indian male B.com. MBA (Marketing & finance), 5 yrs experience (3 yrs in Oman) Currently on visit. Contact 79880058 Email naveelkhan524@gmail.com

Finance Manager/Chief Accountant. 15 years Oman experience. Knowledge of SAP, Oracle Tally. Contact kransari18@gmail.com, 92975469

Indian Male Accountant, M.Com 14 years experience in Oman with D/L & NOC seeks suitable placement. Contact 99757409

Indian Female PGDM (Finance & Marketing, worked as Associate with KPMG India, currently in Oman looking for a suitable opening. Contact 79629993

Indian male 23 yrs. Engineering graduate from NIT, experienced in investment banking / finance, sales & marketing, and entrepreneurial research. Contact: 97045277, 92738367

Accountant with 3 years Oman experience (6 years total Experience), MBA Finance, well versed in VAT, NOC Available. Contact 92862265

Finance manager, qualified & well experience in Oman accounts, banking ERP, VAT, MIS projects etc. Contact 98571309

Indian male, 2 yrs accountant experience in Oman with NOC and 2 yrs admin assistant 2yrs accountant experience in India. Looking for appropriate placement in accountant, admin, clerical jobs. Master in commerce and PGDCA. Contact: +96891746925, +919744304725 Email: lenglev@gmail.com

Omani, 7 yrs experience in the field debt collection & PRO work looking for a suitable placement. Contact 99648284

Looking for part time accounting job. Contact 91019796

27 yrs male Sudanese Accountant 3 years experience MBA holder. Contact 94706138

Accountant, 4 years experience in Oman with DL # 95762756

26 yrs B.Com graduate with 3 yrs experience in accounts & logistics. seeking suitable placement. NOC available. Contact 91362146

Indian CPA 15+ years of experience in Oman & UAE as finance manager / chief accountant on visit and have NOC. Contact: 79007124 Email: shkkader@gmail.com

Accountant: looking for Accounts job, having more than 10 years experience, can handle up to Finalization, with Valid D/L, seeking suitable placement. Contact 92800781

Indian Male, B.Com, MBA, 10yrs experience in accounts & export coordination with Focus, Oracle & Tally seeks suitable placement. NOC, D/L available. Mob: 98747867

Accountant with 7 yrs experience along with Sales & Marketing in Oman with D/L. Local release available. Contact 91367217

ADMIN/HR

Indian Male, 12 years experience in Oman seeks job for Admin/Secretary or any suitable post. Holding Oman D/L & NOC. Contact vinrai99@gmail.com, M: 79734085

Commercial/Secretarial with Stenography/Documentation/Administration cum Basic Accounts 20+ years experience working in oman, with NOC & D/L looking for a suitable job. Contact 92925926, 97704828, Email ffrancis7@gmail.com

Indian female MBA (HR), PGDCA, BE, 7 yrs of experience in HR & administration (5 yrs in Oman) with Omani D/L. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 92474376

Business administration graduate MBA holder, with 3 years experience looking for suitable vacancy. Contact 968-79387444 Email m.mukhtar2t4@gmail.com

Filipino, Female with 12 years of experience in Oman as Executive Secretary and Administrative Assistant in an Airline Company, customer service, inventory management, financing (claims & processing) having strong analytical skills. Contact +96899045640

Indian Male B.Com. 33 Years' experience in Oman, Worked as an Office Manager, Executive Personal Assistant, Accountant, Steno-Secretary, seeks Job, NOC & D/L. available. Contact 92558734

Bcom fresh graduate, 23, with good arabic speaking skill looking for an opening in assisting Administrative/Accountant job roles. Available to join immediately. Mob: 78018480 Email: saadsakeer2009@gmail.com

Indian male - BE MBA, 12 years of experience in HR ADMIN & Logistics (incl. 3 yrs of Oman experience) on visit. Contact 79857135

Indian female MBA, 3 yrs Oman experience, looking for suitable job (Oman D/L). Contact 99257214. Email sansshetty@gmail.com

Indian Female Bcom. 7 years experience. Exa. Secretary/Admin/Coordinator. DL. Contact 92243552/91190552.

ARCHITECT

9 years experienced Female Architect/Master planner seeking for job Contact 96146645

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Srilankan, looking for MEP draftsman / Const supervisor. Dip in MEP draftsman with 3-4 yrs experience. Contact 93988825. Email amenulas@gmail.com

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Required young, experienced & English speaking personal driver for reputed family in Qurum. Contact 99466062

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Consultancy firm urgently requires following candidates having min 5 yrs experience in Oman well versed with arabic language (speaking) & holder of Oman driving license. — **Architect & Civil engineer** for site supervision. Send CV to: info@abdullamukadam.com

Required Consultants having Degree in Marketing/Finance or Engineering with 2 - 5 years' experience working for Consultancy/Advisory Firms. Email advance@omantel.net.om

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Urgently required pathologist/microbiologist with PHD, GP doctors, nurses, x-ray technicians, Arab speaking gynecologist, pediatrician, dentist & orthodontist for Salalah Oman. MOH license holders are preferred. Whatsapp +968 98899345 Email hrrsalalah2021@gmail.com

Wanted Lady Dentist in Ruwi. Contact 99357612

Needed urgently female Lab technician for a private clinic in Salalah. Contact 99082092

Urgently required Gynecologist with DGO/MD, Pediatrician, Specialist Orthopedic, Physiotherapist, Nurse for reputed clinic in Wadikabir Area. Email info@wmc.om

Wanted Female GP preferably with MOH license for a well established Medical Centre. Contact 98115439

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General Manager for a reputed GCC logistics operator. Minimum 5yrs experience in logistics, at least 2yrs in similar capacity. Proficient in strategic thinking, team building, financials and operations. Email logsjobsom@gmail.com

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Urgently required building material salesman with minimum 2 year experience for shop in Duqm. Email: creativemarketingoman@gmail.com

Required young diploma Civil Engineer/graduate with Oman driving license for Sales in construction material. Having good contacts with consultants & contractors. Contact 92888337

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

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Indian Female looking for job opportunities in HR/Admin or similar field. MBA with 7 yrs of experience in Oman, UAE and India in HR, Admin, Payroll n others. Experience in all HR functions. Available to start immediately.
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Contact 78060507 / kerdel2008@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER
Indian Male, Degree in Civil Engineer, 24 yrs Exp, with 15 yrs Gulf experience in handling Grid stations, OHL, Hospital Buildings, Road, MEP, Worked with (Ray International, L & T, ONEIC), under , OETC, Mazan, Mazoon, DPC. Having Oman D/L. Looking for suitable position. Immediate available for Join, NOC available.
Contact 95092523, 92438505, 00919595872774 Wts - 00919595872774 mmohdismail1@yahoo.com

Logistics and Operations
Indian female presently in Muscat having indian experience in Operations and logistic management, Customer relation and data entry seeking suitable jobs.
Contact: 79639093 Email: gokulah1993@gmail.com

Omani Information Technology Field
Omani looking for a job, Bachelor degree in IT from the United States of America, 1 year experience in IT.
Contact: 71771213 Email: Hafes707@hotmail.com

ENGINEER
Omani female looking for a job, BSc in Process engineering (Done four different internships in process engineering), marketing experience as well.
Contact: 95119284 alya_alsiyabi93@outlook.com

SR. MECHANICAL / MEP ENGINEER / MEP MANAGER
Filipino, with over 21 years of experience (airport, seaport, infra, buildings) Working as a consultant since 2010 Having Oman D/L and NOC.
Contact: +96871180492 allirod1975@gmail.com

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

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

B.E Civil Engineer
Indian Male 29yrs with 7 Plus years of Experience in handling High End Building Construction Projects, Infrastructure, MEP, Interior finish and Landscaping works looking for any suitable job in immediate. Having Knowledge of MS Project & Primavera P6. NOC & Oman D/L Available.
Contact/ Whatsapp No.: 95051103, Email: loyannavildsouza@gmail.com

ACCOUNTANT
A certified VAT professional having Masters degree & 10 years of GCC experience in senior positions, is available to handle accounts & VAT compliance.
Contact 71990782

FINANCE
Indian Female (MBA Finance) having 15 years (Oman) of work experience in Banking / Finalization / Audit; seeks suitable placement.
Contact 94953826 / 92824146

CIVIL ENGINEER
B.Sc in Civil Engineering having 13 years experience in Oman. Hand on experience in Ministry of Health, MOD, ROP and RCA prestigious project. Available in Oman with NOC and Valid DL.
Contact No. 92180869 E-mail: mamuns02@yahoo.com

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

IT PROFESSIONAL
With 15+years of experience. Currently working as Head Of IT Support for a reputed company in Muscat for last 7 years. MCSA, CNA, ITIL certified. Experience in IT infrastructure, IT project management, Resource Management & Service Desk seeks suitable placement as IT Manager/System Admin.
Contact 92514687 Email: hi.binu@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT
WANTED PART TIME OR CONTRACT BASIS ACCOUNTING JOB UPTO FINALISATION.
CONTACT: 91720776

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

MEP Mechanical engineer with 2 year exp. Contact 79027224

Sr. quantity surveyor - Civil / contracts with 14+ years of experience in commercial and residential projects in Oman, holder of D/L & NOC available. Seeking for suitable position. Contact no. 93249891

Construction engineer with 10 yrs experience in Oman consulting offices 7 experience in government project. Contact 96965100

Planning engineer, Indian more than 20 yrs experience in Oil & gas, pipeline building & MEP projects scheduling using primavera P6 seeks suitable job. NOC available. Contact 92651105 Email reji-mathai@hotmail.com

Indian male, electric engineer 1 year experience in project coordination and MEP looking for suitable placement. Ready to shift location. Contact: 71148202. Email: Muhammadmuzammil878@gmail.com

B.E Civil engineer Male, with 2 years of professional experience in municipal house construction project. Equipped with a valid D/L. Fluent in English & Arabic. Contact 96749821 Email mhassan9610@gmail.com

Civil engineer with 9 years exp in Oman. Contact 97646908

Indian female M.Tech in Electrical power system having 4+ yrs of experience in Oman seeking suitable placement. Contact 79733520, 94306164

Project engineer, B.tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman experience in all kinds operation of civil & MEP and interior fit-out field with valued Visa and D/L, 95206259, looking placement

Electrical engineer 9 years experience in primary substations, OHL, and underground cables. With a valid D/L. Contact 98223842

Indian Male B.E Civil 6Y experience currently available in Oman. Ready for Immediate join Looking for Any job. Contact 91406778

Senior Civil Engineer with 12 years Exp in government and private construction projects. looking for a suitable position. Contact 95962450. Email: solanki.ahmed@gmail.com

B.E Mechanical engineer, 25 yrs with 2.5 yrs of experience in MEP execution & estimation is seeking suitable placement. Contact 94846765. Email akshaygopinath@gmail.com

Senior Civil Engineer (RE) with over 10 years of experience on major projects (Residential, Commercial & Industrial). # 78270396

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT

Indian male, 10+ yrs experience in the field of purchase,store,asset coordinatorValid D/L. Immediately available for joining. Contact 71596360. Email praveenskurup82@gmail.com

Indian male, experience of 12 Years in Oman as a Purchasing officer and store manager,D/L NOC available looking for suitable job. Contact 97099785, maniugcc@gmail.com

Procurement, purchase officer having master degree searching for job. 07 yrs exp in oman in a well known construction & maintenance group of companies. NOC available. Contact 92587919, 99423614. Email jahanzeb_athar@yahoo.com

Indian, purchase assistant, store keeper 9 years working experience in oman. Valid Oman D/L(light) Looking for suitable job. Contact 98615731 Email: sanalk73@gmail.com

Indian male, 16 yrs experience in a multinational freight forwarding & logistic co,worked under the capacity of Senior operation executive/senior accountant (Ocen freight,air freight, land transport, warehouse operations & finance & accounting). NOC available. Contact 93587605

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Seeking job in Travel & Tourism. 12 years experience, Graduate (B.Sc) IATA Certified professional presently available in Oman. Contact 968 92477622, 79842322 Email: thahaspm@gmail.com

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Contact: 99738614, deepitkotian14@gmail.com

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Indian Male 15 years Experience (MBA) looking for job in Sales & Marketing, Currently in Oman with Valid Driving License and Valid Visa. Contact 91127809

MBA with Engineering (Indian female) working in a reputable company in Oman, with 3 years of experience in Content writing, Digital marketing, Vendor & Budgeting. management, Contact 98945207

Indian male with 10 years GCC experience in Luxury Watches & Jewellery currently in Oman with valid driving license looking for a job in Sales/Marketing. Contact: 91901852

Indian male (30) MBA with Oman experience in sales & marketing, valid Omani D/L on visit. Contact 79755795 Email dhajwani2@gmail.com

34yrs Indian, MBA marketing, B.Com, 9 yrs experience (2 yrs GCC-Dubai) seeking Sales, admin, accounting job. Contact 78167383

Indian male (24) BBA, 2year experience in sales and administration. Contact 94890534 Email: jebinahmed@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer, 4 yrs experience in Oman & 1 yr in India, have Oman valid D/L.Looking for suitable placement. Contact 91521567

Indian male, 38 yrs old MBA graduate, 14 yrs experience in Oman. looking for appropriate placement in sales & marketing job in Muscat region having valid D/L. Contact 92255983 Email vijukrishnann@gmail.com

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ROUND-UP

Al Rawabi doubles down on Isuzu trucks powered by OTE's VLC

Fitted with refrigeration systems from Carrier Transicold, a global industry leader in land transportation refrigeration solutions, the trucks offer an optimal, yet competitive, transport solution to Al Rawabi

MUSCAT: Leading dairy products and fruit beverages manufacturer Al Rawabi is once again betting on the formidable reputation of the Isuzu brand of distribution trucks, suitably equipped with refrigeration units from Carrier Transicold, to get its immensely popular products safely to stores across the Sultanate.

To this end, the dairy company has turned to Vehicle Leasing Company (VLC) for a one-stop and cost-effective solution that fully addresses the brand's transportation requirements.

VLC is the vehicle leasing arm of OTE Group of companies, a prominent Omani business house with diverse interests spanning automobiles, auto accessories, consumer electronics, vocational training services, and manufacturing. Muscat-based VLC specialises in crafting customised leasing and transport solutions that offer unmatched value to customers.

Under the arrangement, Al Rawabi recently took delivery of a brand new fleet of Isuzu trucks on lease from VLC. Fitted with refrigeration systems from Car-



VEHICLE LEASING: VLC is the vehicle leasing arm of OTE Group of companies, a prominent Omani business house with diverse interests spanning automobiles, auto accessories, consumer electronics, vocational training services, and manufacturing.

rier Transicold, a global industry leader in land transportation refrigeration solutions, the trucks offer an optimal, yet competitive, transport solution to Al Rawabi.

"Isuzu, unquestionably the world's No. 1 commercial truck, together with Carrier Transicold, the globally preferred refrigeration transportation brand, made for a winning combination in the price and quality-conscious perishables transportation business. Our cost-effective leasing solution, underpinned by these two impeccable brands, ticked all of the boxes for Al Rawabi," said Rajesh Nair, VLC.

About VLC
A specialist leasing operation, VLC (Vehicle Leasing Company) is part of OTE Group of Companies. It completes the automotive bouquet of OTE's offerings to customers by providing opportunities for long-term leasing, short-term leasing and daily rentals through its Value Plus Brand. Equipped with a large fleet of hundreds of vehicles, VLC has a presence across multiple locations including Ghala, Wat-tayah, Salalah, and Sohar.

About Al Rawabi
Al Rawabi Company produces a wide range of dairy products - from fresh milk to yoghurts, laban and functional health products in addition to an expansive range of fresh juices in a variety of flavours. Al Rawabi markets its products across the UAE and Oman while expanding its geographical footprint in the region. Founded in 1989, the award-winning company's dairy farm in the UAE currently has a herd of over 16,500 cows with a production facility that operates 24 hours.

NEW RANGE

New top-of-the-range Panamera Turbo S claims best-in-class performance

MUSCAT: Porsche's ultimate expression of performance wrapped in luxurious, four-seat motoring, the 2021 Panamera has arrived at Porsche Centre Oman, SATA, with prices from OMR35,300. The latest range delivers more power, state-of-the-art technology, enhanced driving dynamics and new design features that visually connect it to the full Porsche range with trademark cues front and rear.

A car that links the performance of a sports coupe with the comfort of an executive saloon, the Panamera has been a staple of the Porsche range since 2009 and features even more performance, courtesy of the new 700PS (514kW), four-litre, Biturbo V8 Turbo S E-Hybrid, the most powerful variant in the range.

Highlighting the importance of the latest addition to the model range, Elias Awad, Brand Manager of Porsche Centre Oman, said: "As a true sports car and a true Gran Turismo, the Panamera has been a core member of the Porsche family for many years. With



the Biturbo V8 engine in both the GTS and Turbo S models, Panamera's performance credentials are unmatched while at the same time providing maximum comfort for all four occupants. With the Turbo S, Porsche underlines its goal to deliver the best performance in its class."

The new 870 Nm Panamera Turbo S E-Hybrid is the most powerful model in the range, combining a 571 PS, four-litre, Biturbo V8 with a 136 PS electric motor integrated into an eight-speed, dual-

clutch transmission (PDK) and a 17.9 kWh battery. It returns a combined fuel consumption figure of 2.7l/100kms and accelerates from zero to 100 km/h in 3.2 seconds with a top speed of 315 km/h.

The 630 PS (463 kW) four-litre V8 Biturbo engine used in the Panamera Turbo S was initially developed in Weissach and was comprehensively overhauled in Zuffenhausen. It allows accelerations from 0 - 100 km/h in 3.1 seconds and achieves the same top speed as the Turbo S E-Hybrid.

Its power is transferred to the road via the latest Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM) system which controls its three-chamber air suspension along with improvements made to the roll stabilisation system Porsche Dynamic Chassis Control Sport (PDCC Sport) and Porsche Torque Vectoring Plus (PTV Plus).

The V8 Biturbo engine in the Panamera GTS was optimised to focus on power delivery, with 480 PS (353 kW) and 620 Nm which equates to an extra 20 PS (15 kW) over its predecessor.

The new Panamera and Panamera 4 are now equipped with the familiar 2.9-litre V6 Biturbo engine, delivering 330 PS (243 kW) and 450 Nm.

Elias Awad added: "There is nothing like the new Panamera on the road, it's unmistakably Porsche in its design and engineering which makes it an exciting car to drive but also supremely comfortable for the whole family to enjoy at the same time. It's a true sports car for four."

STELLAR AUDIO EXPERIENCE

Huawei FreeBuds 4i: Top pick for high-quality sounding earphones in 2021

MUSCAT: Huawei recently introduced yet another member to this audio lineup, the new Huawei FreeBuds 4i.

A truly innovative product, this new earphone takes inspiration from its predecessors and brings to users a stellar audio experience with high-quality sound, active noise cancellation and long-lasting battery life.

This continuous and relentless expansion of the audio profile is a true testament to what Huawei aims to provide its users with, more solutions for an immersive audio experience.

The latest in the lineup, the Huawei FreeBuds 4i, is no stranger to such strong features. For instance, it is capable of providing high-quality audio with balanced sound waves, thanks to its customized internal components



such as its 10mm dynamic driver and professionally tuned audio output for stellar audio quality even in noisy environments.

While wireless audio solutions are the go-to audio devices today, a common concern with them has always been battery life. Huawei realises this and has always implemented some of the best battery and charging solutions to their products.

APPOINTMENT

Zubair Corporation appoints Said Al Sahib as Director of Zubair SEC

MUSCAT: In line with its continuous strategy and vision to encourage Omanis to take up higher management positions, The Zubair Corporation (Z-Corp) has announced the appointment of Said Al Sahib as Director of Zubair Small Enterprises Centre (Zubair SEC).

The appointment of Said Al Sahib strongly underlines Z-Corp's strive to appoint nationals in leadership positions within its group companies, aligned with the government's vision to promote Omanis to higher management positions in the private sector. It also accentuates Z-Corp's strategic objective to empower its workforce and prepare talents for leadership positions in the private sector. The appointment is in line with the organisation's human resources policy, which builds a sustainable work environment that attracts a national workforce.

Commenting on his appointment, Rashad bin Muhammad Al Zubair, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Z-Corp, said, "We are pleased to appoint Said Al Sahib as director of one of Z-Corp's major initiatives - Zubair SEC. He brings a profound understanding of business development, as well as a wealth of experience in managing complex business systems, which will help address the diverse changes and challenges that are affecting the SME sector. I am convinced that his leadership and experience will serve to drive Zubair SEC's continued success and help aspiring and young Omani entrepreneurs succeed. His appointment emphasises our



commitment, vision, and goal to contribute to the national effort to promote Omani talent. Before joining Z-Corp 13 years ago, Said-held management positions with several other private and public sector institutions. We are proud that he has contributed his vast experience and perspectives to the growth of the organisation and thank him for the same."

Said Al Sahib, who previously served as General Manager, Corporate Development at The Zubair Corporation, has a rich experience of over 25 years. He has independently handled business development roles, dealing with leading national and international organisations in the public and private sectors. Focused on achieving bottom-line results in intensely competitive environments, his strengths are in the areas of multi-culture adaptabil-

ity change management. He also excels in organisation skills, motivational leadership, with established success in sector strategy and operational solutions delivery on a global scale with differentiating value proposition and impact. Widely travelled, he has actively participated in delegations as a representative of the private sector. Having started his career in the government, he was actively involved in economic planning affairs. Said holds a Master of Arts Degree in International Business Finance, and an Executive Diploma in Strategic Management and Leadership from Charter Management Institute (CMI), UK.

The Zubair Corporation established Zubair SEC in June 2013 to be a guiding and supporting arm for developing the culture of entrepreneurship in Oman and supporting young Omanis who aspire to achieve business success. Since its establishment, the Centre has gone beyond the traditional notion of a 'business incubator', towards a holistic ecosystem providing support and motivation for talented ambitious minds. It has also moved beyond traditional mentorship models, towards one of partnership, collaboration and teamwork with its members.

Zubair SEC's commitment towards the development of Oman is not a choice, but a strong belief, and a pledge to remain committed to supporting young Omanis, helping them to achieve their goals while contributing towards economic diversification and prosperity for coming generations.

EXPANSION

Malabar Gold & Diamonds on expansion spree, scheduled to open 56 stores

DUBAI: Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one of the largest gold and diamond retail chains in the country, has announced that it will launch 56 stores globally with 40 across India and 16 internationally in FY21-22 to further boost its retail presence across the country. The move is expected to amount to an overall investment of \$220 million and generate 1,750 new jobs.

In India, the expansion strategy is centred in states like Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Delhi, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Kerala. Internationally, the expansion will further strengthen its position in markets like Singapore, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and UAE.

The move marks a major investment in expansion at a time when many gold and jewellery retailers have struggled to manage their existing operations due to the challenging global economic environment. Despite the challenging market conditions, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has decided to push ahead with expansion, which demonstrates its confidence in the growth of these markets in future.

Out of the total planned expansion, 12 stores have already been earmarked for opening in the first quarter of FY21-22 itself. The brand has already secured retail spaces in key markets at competitive rates in this regard in big cities like Chennai, Lucknow, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Pune and Bengaluru as well as small towns like Eluru, Mancheri, Solapur

and Ahmednagar in India. International expansion will see the brand expand retail presence at Little India in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Penang in Malaysia, Ruwi, Baushar and Al Khoudh in Muscat, Jeryan Jenaihat and Rawdat in Qatar, Bab al Bahrain in Bahrain and Al Zahia, Silicon Oasis, Muweilah Sharjah and Dubai Gold Souk in UAE. This is expected to further strengthen the presence of the brand in various existing markets as well as help its foray into newer ones.

While commenting on the expansion plan, Malabar Group Chairman MP Ahmed said, "In more than 25 years of our illustrious journey, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has grown from strength to strength and transformed from a small jewellery retail business to an international player across several verticals including gold and diamond jewellery retail, jewellery manufacturing and multi-retail concepts. Transparency and customer trust are the two key pillars of our business philosophy. With the launch of our expansion plan, we are taking our mission to the next level. Keeping up with our values, the stores will offer an unparalleled jewellery buying experience with design, quality and service excellence along with the Malabar Promise of incomparable quality and service assurance. The expansion is an integral part of our strategy to become the number one responsible jewellery retail brand in the world in terms of both showroom count and turnover."

"The culture of gifting lives

along with human beings to express their love, affection and emotion for their loved ones. We aim to be No. 1 in this segment and we will strengthen the gifting aspect of jewellery that is fast growing in India and other countries and use it as a growth-driver of our jewellery business," he added.

Abdul Salam KP, Group Executive Director of Malabar Group, said, "As a responsible business, we are very mindful of our obligations to our societies. Our expansion will create additional 1,750 well-paid jobs and we are very excited about our future growth plan. We ensure our entire operation in a very transparent way. We understand the sensitivity of the industry and ensure compliance through responsible sourcing, ethical business practices, transparent and professional fund management. We associate with trade bodies, financial houses, government regulators to make sure that our operations are infallible globally."

"Our retail expansion is a part of our strategy to further strengthen our retail footprint in the territories where we have a strong presence and foray into new markets with our differentiated services and product offerings. Jewellery lovers globally will be able to experience a wide range of innovative designs in diamonds, precious gems and gold with the promise of unparalleled transparency, convenience and customer-friendly policies," said Shamal Ahamed, Managing Director, International Operations of Malabar Gold and Diamonds.

Exclusive benefits on stylish Toyota Avalon



Complementing the Avalon's stunning looks is a thrilling drive personality imbued by a 3.5-litre V6 engine, which produces a maximum output of 298 HP and 36.3 Kg-m of torque

MUSCAT: The best time to own a Toyota Avalon is now. Get cash gift from OMR3,300 up to OMR3,500, insurance 1 year comprehensive or cash gift in lieu of insurance up to OMR350 and service 2 years / 20,000km (whichever is earlier). (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms &

Conditions apply. Visit the showroom for exact details, please). Complementing the Avalon's stunning looks is a thrilling drive personality imbued by a 3.5-litre V6 engine, which produces a maximum output of 298 HP and 36.3 Kg-m of torque and is equipped with a Direct Injection 4-Stroke Gasoline Engine Superior Version (D-4S) and Variable Valve Timing

intelligent Wide (VVT-iW) systems to achieve top-notch power performance, environmental performance, and fuel efficiency. The engine is paired to an eight-speed automatic transmission that merges smooth, precise gear selection throughout the RPM range with alacrity for fuel efficiency and on-demand power. Striking a smooth connection between a stylish design, exquisite luxury, and greater convenience and comfort, the Avalon's cabin is accentuated with a range of advanced features, including an enhanced In-vehicle 9-inch Navigation System, a Head-Up Display (HUD), Wireless Charging System For Smartphones, Ambient Illumination, Automatic Air Conditioning System, 14-speaker JBL Sound System, Multi-Adjustable Power And Ventilated Front Seats, As well as 60:40 Split Folding Rear Seats. As with any other Toyota model,

safety remains a top priority for the Avalon. The vehicle's safety system is complemented with Toyota Safety Sense, an advanced safety technology package that includes Pre-Collision System (PCS), Dynamic Radar Cruise Control (DRCC), Lane Change Assist (LCA), Lane Departure Alert (LDA) and Automatic High Beam (AHB). In addition, the car features a comprehensive array of safety features to protect its occupants, such as 10 SRS Airbags, Vehicle Stability Control, Traction Control, Anti-lock Braking System, Electronic Brakeforce Distribution, Brake Assist, Electric Parking Brake with Brake Hold function, Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Cross-Traffic Alert, and Hill-start Assist, among many others. In Oman, the nationwide parts and service network of Saud Bahwan Automotive supports Toyota's outstanding product quality.

UPSKILLING JOB SEEKERS



BP Oman, Youth Vision conclude 'Teqdar 60 minutes' programme

MUSCAT: In partnership with BP Oman, Youth Vision concluded the first cycle of the 'Teqdar 60 minutes' programme which aimed at utilising the knowledge, expertise, and experience of 15 retirees to consult 30 job seekers. The retirees delivered more than 220 hours of consultation over the course of three months. The programme assisted approximately 60 per cent of the job seekers in finding either training, employment, or business opportunities.



Shamsa Al-Rawahiya, BP Oman Social Investment Manager, commented, "BP Oman partnered with Youth Vision to strengthen national capabilities and upskilling job seekers through the experience and knowledge of retired individuals. This allows both youths to increase their employability in line with Oman vision 2040's key pillars. It also allows retired individuals to contribute towards reducing unemployment through their own career experiences. It was great to see that the programme also addressed and changed the ideas surrounding the labour market."

knowledge on providing effective responses during job interviews. Khulood Al Mataani, one of the programme beneficiaries commented, "The programme had a positive impact on my perspective of the job application process. It broadened my knowledge and allowed me to think outside of the box to find effective solutions which is useful in the workplace labour market. It is no secret that I did not want the programme to end, as every session helped expand my knowledge and develop an understanding of my strengths and areas of development." Mohammed Al Qasbi, one of the retirees who participated in the programme, mentioned, "The programme conveyed a very important message on the effectiveness of knowledge sharing with different members of society. It used this concept to effectively upskill job seekers who attended this programme. The programme affected me profoundly, as it gave me the ability to positively impact young Omanis in their employment journeys."

The topics that were discussed with job seekers included setting goals, identifying current skills and capabilities, and adjusting to new work environments. They were also taught skills that are useful for the job application process including developing 'SWOT' analysis, strengthening their curriculum vitae (CV), and



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BANK MUSCAT

Najahi strengthens partnership with MarkeetEx.com to promote MSMEs

MUSCAT: In line with its commitment to supporting and developing the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) sector, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate has further strengthened its partnership with MarkeetEx.com Online Marketplace, which is an eCommerce platform dedicated to promoting the products and services of local MSMEs in the Sultanate of Oman. The partnership, which is being spearheaded by the bank's Retail Enterprises Unit (Najahi), has seen rapid growth as the marketplace continues to sign on new MSME customers to sell and deliver groceries, household goods, mobiles and computers, fashion, beauty, and health products at highly-competitive prices. MarkeetEx.com currently has over 1,000 merchants from different parts of the country registered on its online platform. Speaking about the strong support extended to the MSME sector, Abdullah Al Jufaili, Head, Retail Enterprises Unit (Najahi), Bank Muscat, said, "As a pioneer in supporting the Omani MSME sector, Bank Muscat continuously launches new initiatives in alignment with the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and line with its strong commitment to the sector. As part of the strategy to promote



promising Omani entrepreneurs and increase their market share, Bank Muscat will bear the annual fees payable by selected Najahi customers who are using MarkeetEx.com. In addition, it will cover part of the commission fees for the sales transactions. We are greatly encouraged by the fact that this initiative is leading to increasing sales of the MSME and improving their financial performance."



Khalid Al Hosni, Founder and CEO of MarkeetEx.com, added that MarkeetEx.com has been greatly encouraged by the strong response from the MSME sector and the support of the bank in taking the concept to the wider MSME community and said, "To nurture the SME sector, support must be channelled to encourage creativity and innovation. The initiative offers collaboration and a supportive ecosystem

for MSMEs and we hope to make a big difference to their rate of success and innovation by offering this highly-localised digital marketplace that promotes local entrepreneurship. We are greatly encouraged by the strong response from MSMEs over the last few months." Given current social distancing norms brought about by the global COVID-19 pandemic, MarkeetEx.com is greatly helping MSME businesses reach out to customers through its online platform at <https://markeetex.com>. The strengthening of this collaboration carries on the success of the bank's annual souqs and product exhibitions of previous years. It also complements other initiatives undertaken by the bank to promote the growth and development of MSMEs in Oman in recognition of their strong economic role. Bank Muscat supports MSMEs in the country through its Najahi and Al Wathbah units to further strengthen the Sultanate's economy. Najahi, in particular, is well known for having pioneered the availability of a number of collateral-free credit facilities for micro and small businesses in Oman. It also offers non-financial support to its customers and other entrepreneurs through a number of innovative initiatives.

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