

**IBRI INDUSTRIAL CITY
IMPLEMENTS 23 PROJECTS
WORTH OVER OMR9MN**

The number of localised projects in Ibri Industrial City in Al Dhahirah governorate has touched 23 over a total area of 250,000 square metres at an investment value exceeding OMR9 million. **>B1**



**HIS MAJESTY THE SULTAN GREET'S
KING OF THE BELGIANS**

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to King Philippe Leopold Louis Marie, King of the Belgians on his country's National Day. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his heartfelt sentiments to King Philippe, wishing him good health and happiness. His Majesty also wished the people of Belgium further progress and prosperity. **- ONA**



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INTERACTIVE PLATFORM

Oman Vision 2040



Oman Vision 2040 website: An interactive platform and a storehouse of information

MUSCAT: Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit launched its website (www.oman2040.om), an integrative, flexible and interactive platform that is designed to enable the specialists, researches and interested individuals to access the final version of the vision's document, learn about the national programmes, and the Unit's work methodologies for monitoring and evaluating performance.

The website consists of a number of sections, the first of which is

a dedicated section for the unique history, civilisation, culture and geographical location of the Sultanate of Oman. Another section is designed to represent Oman Vision 2040's pillars, national priorities, indicators and national programmes, as well as a section dedicated for the Unit, including the speech of its chairman, an overview about the establishment of the unit, its roles and responsibilities, vision, mission and values, its work methodologies to follow-up and support the efforts exerted towards

achieving Oman Vision 2040, the approved framework to develop the vision's programmes, and the sectors development platforms.

Moreover, the website has a publications section, including Oman Vision 2040 document, annual reports, and booklets. There is also a section dedicated for the community participation platform, which will be launched later this year, as well as the Media Centre for News and Events of the Unit, and a special section for communication and providing suggestions. The unit's

website also includes icons for the Unit's accounts on social media platforms, to enable browsers in having direct access to the posts of the unit in all of its accounts.

The website's design is adaptable to various devices such as desktops, laptops, tablets and mobiles. Later on, the unit will include the website voice reader feature in both Arabic and English, in addition to sign language for those with audiovisual disabilities, to enable them to learn about the Vision and the unit and follow its news. **- ONA**

**COMMITTEES FORMED
TO STUDY DROWNING
INCIDENTS IN OMAN**



Sub-committees have been formed in the governorates of Oman, with representatives from different departments



Oman during adverse climatic conditions.

This was the topic of discussion at the second meeting of the committee chaired by Sayyida Ma'ani Abdullah Al Busaidi, Director General of Family Development at the ministry, who heads the committee.

Royal Decree

Citing the provisions of Royal Decree No. 22/2014, the meeting discussed the legal implica-

tions of such incidents and the accountability of the parties that endanger the life of children during climatic conditions.

Sub-committees have been formed in the governorates of Oman, with representatives from the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Royal Oman Police (ROP), the Public Prosecution Department, the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, private sector

establishments and civil society institutions.

Children's rights

The panels are tasked with receiving claims and reports of incidents involving the violation of children's rights, violence against children and cases of abuse.

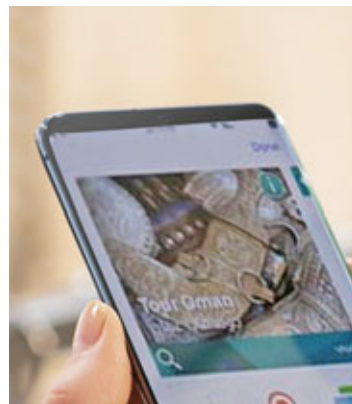
During Eid Al Adha holidays, two children of an expat family from Dubai vacationing at Al Mughail beach in the Governorate of Dhofar were carried away by a giant sea wave after they crossed the safety barriers.

Their bodies were recovered by the Royal Oman Police after several days.

In another incident, four children, who were swept away to sea at the Al-Athaiba beach in the Muscat Governorate, were rescued by teams from the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority (CDAA).

-WITH ONA INPUTS

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



**OMAN
Mobile phone users
rise 14% in May 2022**

1 The total number of mobile phone subscriptions in Oman increased by 13.9% at the end of May 2022 to reach 6,187,816 compared to the same period in 2021, according to the data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information. **>A2**

**MARKET
Total value of GCC
contracts up 11.7%**

2 The total value of GCC contracts awarded increased by 11.7 per cent year-on-year during the second quarter of 2022 to US dollar 22.8 billion against US dollar 20.4 billion in the same period of 2021, according to a new report. **>B1**

**SPORTS
Legends League
Cricket Season 2**

3 Season 2 of Legends League Cricket is becoming bigger each day. After the success of Season 1, Legends League Cricket is back with the second season from September 20 to October 10, 2022, which would feature 4 privately owned franchisees. **>B6**

**Honey badger makes
a rare appearance
in Al Wusta**

A5



ENTERTAINMENT

Movie 'Shamshera': Ranbir plays both father and son!

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Ranbir Kapoor is playing a larger than life quintessential Hindi film hero for the first time in his career with the action entertainer *Shamshera*.

Ranbir, who is coming to the big screen four years after he delivered the blockbuster *Sanju*, wowed everyone and also caught people by surprise when the trailer of the much-awaited film dropped!

Fans went into a frenzy because the trailer revealed a closely guarded secret that Ranbir is playing the father, *Shamshera*, and the son, Balli, in this revenge spectacle! This is the first time Ranbir is playing two characters in the same film!

Ranbir spills the beans on the fact that he was only approached to play Balli but he convinced producer Aditya Chopra and filmmaker Karan Malhotra to trust him with the character of *Shamshera* too!

Speaking to TFM's Kay on the Afternoon Slide, Ranbir said: "When the film was narrated to me, it wasn't really offered to me as a double role. But when I heard the story, my immediate response to Aditya Chopra and Karan Malhotra was that let me play the father also!"

He explains, "Because it is such a great role, it is such an interesting, juicy part for an actor to play. Then, I really had to convince Adi and Karan. I think after that Karan did a couple of look tests



and that's when he got convinced also. So, initially it wasn't offered to me but it hooked me thoroughly as an actor. They were two unique characters and for an actor like me, to play two distinctive characters and make them different was

very challenging and very exciting for me." The story of *Shamshera* is set in the fictitious city of Kaza, where a warrior tribe is imprisoned, enslaved and tortured by a ruthless authoritarian general Shudh Singh. This is the story of

a man who became a slave, a slave who became a leader and then a legend for his tribe. He relentlessly fights for his tribe's freedom and dignity. His name is *Shamshera*.

The high-octane, adrenaline-pumping entertainer is set in the 1800s in the heartland of India. It has the big promise of a never seen before Ranbir Kapoor, who plays *Shamshera* in the film! Sanjay Dutt plays Ranbir's arch-enemy in this huge casting coup and his showdown with Ranbir will be something to watch out for as they will ferociously go after each other with no mercy.

Directed by Karan Malhotra, this action extravaganza has been produced by Aditya Chopra and is set to release in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu on July 22, 2022.



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PRAYER TIMINGS



Dhuhr.....	12:18pm
Asr.....	3:40pm
Maghrib.....	7:00pm
Isha.....	8:20pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:08am

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION



SIGNING CEREMONY: The MoC was signed by Hilal Said Al Hajri, Governor of Al Dakhiliyah and Eng. Mohammed Abu-Bakar Al Ghassani, OMRAN's Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors. — **ONA**

Pact to attract investments at Al Jabal Al Akhdar signed

AL JABAL AL AKHDAR: The office of the Governor of Al Dakhiliyah signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with Oman Tourism Development Company (OMRAN).

The MoC aims to achieve sustainable development in infrastructure, government services

and public utilities in the tourism sector, as well as to create an investment-attractive milieu in Al Jabal Al Akhdar, the Governorate of A'Dakhiliyah.

The MoC was signed by Hilal Said Al Hajri, Governor of A'Dakhiliyah and Eng. Mohammed Abu-Bakar Al Ghassani, OM-

RAN's Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The MoC stipulates setting up a joint vision between the governorate and OMRAN to create innovative incubators that support the development and establishment of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). — **ONA**

NCSI DATA

Mobile phone subscriptions increase by 13.9% in May

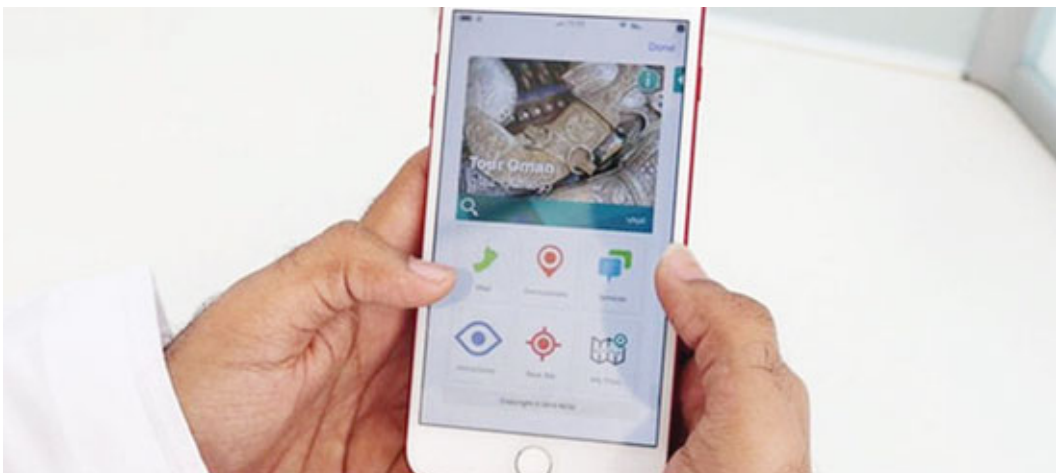
MUSCAT: The total number of mobile phone subscriptions in the Sultanate of Oman increased by 13.9 per cent at the end of May 2022 to reach 6,187,816 compared to the same period in 2021, according to the latest data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

Post-paid mobile phone sub-

scriptions rose by 24.3 per cent by the end of May 2022 to reach 1,411,312 compared to the same period in 2021, while the number of pre-paid mobile phone subscriptions declined by 1.4 per cent to reach 4,776,504. Among those subscriptions, 3,648,078 were through service providers and 1,128,426 through reselling.

Moreover, the number of active mobile broadband subscriptions increased by 6.2 per cent at the end of May 2022 compared to May 2021. Subscriptions to the fixed Internet service registered a rise at the end of May 2022 by 1.9 per cent to reach 524,916, compared to the same period in 2021.

— **ONA**



GOVERNORATE OF DHOFAR

Delegation visits Al Bashayer Meat Co., Doka Nature Reserve

SALALAH: The media delegation comprising reporters from Arab and foreign news agencies on Wednesday visited Al Bashayer Meat Company in the Wilayat of Thumrait, Governorate of Dhofar. At Al Bashayer, the reporters listened to a briefing by Eng. Abdullah Musallam Al Rowas, Maintenance Manager. They later went on tour of the firm's facilities.

Al Bashayer is a comprehensive red meat production unit, the first of its kind in the Sultanate of Oman.

It was established to serve as



a sustainable resource that contributes to self-sufficiency in food security. It focuses on cattle meat and poultry that are marketed locally and abroad.

The reporters also visited the

Wadi Doka Nature Reserve, 40 km away from the Wilayat of Salalah. It is a large park housing luban (frankincense) trees and registered in the World Natural Heritage list of luban sites. — **ONA**



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ملاذ مميز في أيللا الجبل الأخضر لفضاء رائعة وسط الجمال الخلاب والهواء النقي حيث تكون مقامة 10 درجة أبرد على غاية داركم.

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Soak up in the magnificence of Ayn Khor and Ayn Athum



AYN ATHUM is located on the eastern side of Salalah. Athum waterfall, which is 15 metres in height, is located at the top of Wadi Khushaim in the east of the city of Salalah. It is accessible via the road leading to Taqah.

Ayn Khor that is located in the western part of the city is a favourite tourist spot during Khareef. It is located in Raysut about 500 metres from the main road. The source of the crystal clear water is located in Wadi Jardum, around 20 km from Salalah. Ayn Khor attracts hundreds of tourists annually.

Enjoy the pleasant showers and serenity but don't forget to stay safe as most of these waterfalls have strong currents and hence not safe for swimming. Visitors must ensure that they pay heed to all the warnings and safety measures.



MAJIS INDUSTRIAL SERVICES SAOC (Majis)
P.O. Box No. 553, Falaj Al Qabail, Postal Code 322, Sultanate of Oman Tel No. 26852422 Email: Tender@miscoman.com (Office Location: Administration Building, Opposite Sohar Aluminium and Sohar Power co. at Sohar Industrial Port Area)



TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Majis Industrial Services SAOC (Majis) is a closely held joint stock company fully owned by the Government of Oman. Majis is engaged in providing various water utility services at the Sohar Industrial Port Area and Sohar Free Zone .

Tenders are invited from local qualified firms for the following (Note: small description of TOR is available in our e tendering system).

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Tender Description	Bids fees In R.O.	Last date for paying bid fee	Last date for tender Submission
1.	Majis/17/2022	Supply and Installation of One Common Cooling Water Pump and Motor set at Majis' Common Cooling Water System Facility at Sohar Industrial Port area	157.500 including 5% VAT	28 th July 2022	22 nd August 2022

Bidders who have made electronic transfer of bid fee will be issued soft copy of the tender document through the e tendering system on or before 28th July 2022. The companies participating must be registered with Majis' in e-tendering system (<http://tendering.majis.com/VendorLogin.aspx>) during the tendering stage. The payment of bid fee should be made by direct transfer to the following bank account of Majis. (Account Name: Majis Industrial Services SAOC, Bank : Bank Muscat SAOG, Account Number: 0423010783830018).

Note: the registered companies who can upload the tender fee transfer receipt into our e-tendering system under the above referred tender section. Tender documents will be issued to such firms only through the system.

The Tender should be submitted, addressed to "The Management Committee, Majis Industrial Service SAOC, P.O. Box No. 553, Falaj Al Qabail, Postal Code 322, Sultanate of Oman" in our e tendering system on or before the tender submission date.

Tenderers must not display their identities on envelopes. Majis is not bound to accept the lowest or any other tender.

Questions regarding this procurement process shall be directed to tender@miscoman.com.



TWO-WAY ROADS: As part of the project, two-way roads will be constructed along Al Batinah Expressway and connect the economic zone of Khazaen and the overall national road grid. - ONA

Tender floated for Al Batinah coastal road's First Phase

MUSCAT: Acting in cooperation with the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, the Secretariat General of the Tender Board announced tender for the design, execution and completion of the First Phase of Al Batinah Coastal Road—a stretch of 21 kilometres—from the Wilayat of Barka to A'Suwaig Port.

The project, a strategic component of the ministry's strategic plan, comprises two the construction of dual links leading to the centres of the two wilayats (Barka, A'Suwaig), a flyover for Al Suwaiq roundabout and a set of roundabouts, junctions, inter-sections and exits connecting the adjoining villages and residential complexes.

Maximise benefits
Once completed, the first phase of Al Batinah Coast Road will maximise benefits from the logistic scheme of the area and will also provide various opportunities for economic development and tourism.

It will also bolster commercial activity at the ports of Barka and A'Suwaig, since it collects the centres of the two wilayats with the two hubs.

As part of the project, two-way roads will be constructed along Al Batinah Expressway and connect the economic zone of Khazaen and the overall national road grid. - ONA



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CEREMONY

Staff and Command College marks passing out of its 35th batch

MUSCAT: The Staff and Command College (at the Academy for Strategic and Defence Studies) celebrated the passing out of its 35th batch. The ceremony, held at Bait Al Falaj Garrison, was held under the auspices of Abdus-salam Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority (OIA).

The batch comprised officers from the Ministry of Defence, the headquarters of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF), the Royal Guards of Oman (RGO), SAF wings and other military and security departments. The batch also included students from GCC states and other Arab countries.

The curricula of the course covered refresher drills, lectures by undersecretaries and ambassadors and concluded with a practical demo codenamed Al Hazm (firmness), which culminates the course's series of training exercises. -ONA



WILDLIFE

In a rare appearance, honey badger spotted in Al Wusta

MAHOUT: An Omani citizen from the Wilayat of Mahut, Governorate of Al Wusta, spotted a honey badger, a rare appearance for this species in the area.

A honey badger (also known as ratel) measures 10 to 30cm in length and weighs 5 to 15 kilograms. It gets its food (honey) with the help of a bird called 'honeyguide'. The animal can live about 7-8 years in the wild and up to 20 years in captivity.

A honey badger, which inhabits meadows and dry lands alike, exists in the Governorate of Dhofar and parts of the Governorate of Al Wusta, as well as countries in Africa and south and west Asia. -ONA



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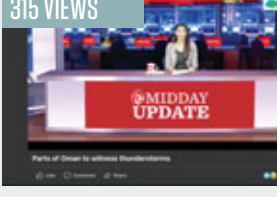


Story on Indian Rupee vs Omani Rial

A story on Indian Rupee vs Omani Rial reached 55,132 people and had 4,302 link clicks on Facebook.

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315 VIEWS



Midday Top Story video

The Midday Top Story video had 315 views and reached 1,600 people on Facebook.

 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

864 VIEWS



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Ministry of Social Development



Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender committee of Ministry of Social Development hereby announces the following tender :-

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-refundable)
105/2022	Cleaning service for national autism center building at al- khoud	Companies specialized in the field of cleaning, washing and pest control, which are registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the excellent or first class	Thursday 4-8-2022 02:00 PM	Thursday 18-8-2022 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Thursday 21/7/2022

❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.

❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402200)

" The lowest or any other tender shall not be binding to the Ministry "

www.mosd.gov.om

TWITTER TAKEOVER

Musk's Twitter takeover row heading for five-day trial

WASHINGTON: Twitter's lawsuit seeking to hold Elon Musk to his USD 44 billion takeover deal will go to a five-day trial in October, a judge on Tuesday ruled as per CNN.

Last week, the microblogging site filed a lawsuit against Musk after he decided to back out of the USD 44 billion takeover deal. Twitter (TWTR) filed a motion to expedite the proceedings and requested a four-day trial in September. Musk's legal team opposed the motion.

Legal obligations

"Twitter brings this action to enjoin Musk from further breaches to compel Musk to fulfil his legal obligations and to compel consummation of the merger upon satisfaction of the few outstanding conditions," the social media site wrote in the lawsuit. The lawsuit marks the beginning of what could be a protracted legal battle as Twitter seeks to hold Musk to his deal to pay USD 54.20 per share for the company.

Twitter, which is being repped by M&A powerhouse law firm Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, alleged that Musk looked for an escape from the deal, which required a "material adverse effect" or breach of contract."

Musk had to try to conjure one of those," the lawsuit stated. Musk announced the termination of a USD 44 billion Twitter purchase deal in a letter sent by Musk's team to Twitter last week. **ANI**



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NEW PRIME MINISTER

Conservatives vote for two finalists to succeed Johnson



LONDON: The final two candidates to become Boris Johnson's successor as UK prime minister will be decided on Wednesday, with Trade Minister Penny Mordaunt, Foreign Secretary Liz Truss and Former Treasury chief Rishi Sunak vying for the job.

The vote will come after Johnson makes his final appearance in Parliament as the British leader at the Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs) session, the weekly fixture of the political calendar that pits the premier against his opponents and fellow Conservatives in a debate.

Less than two weeks ago, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced he was resigning as leader of the Conservative Party after several ministers threatened to leave their offices if he stayed in charge.

The final two candidates to re-

place Johnson will be selected in an elimination vote expected after 15:00 UTC this afternoon.

"I'm not following this thing particularly closely," Johnson said of the race, to laughter.

Speaking in his final PMQs, Johnson gave a word of advice to his successor.

"Stay close to the Americans, stick up for the Ukrainians, stick up for freedom and democracy everywhere," Johnson said.

Johnson also sought to shape his legacy around the government's coronavirus pandemic response and his support of Kyiv in its defense against Moscow.

"We've helped — I've helped — get this country through a pandemic and help save another country from barbarism. And frankly, that's enough to be going on with. Mission largely accomplished," he said. **ww**



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HEATWAVES

WMO warns of frequent heatwaves in decades ahead

GENEVA: Extreme heat in western Europe is causing devastating wildfires in France and Spain, and unprecedented drought in Italy and Portugal, according to World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

According to UN's WMO, the UK recorded its highest-ever temperature of just over 40 degrees Celsius during Tuesday, at London's Heathrow airport. With temperatures expected to remain above normal until the middle of next week, the WMO warned that heatwaves will occur more and more frequently, into the 2060s.

The pattern is linked to the observed warming of the planet that can be attributed to human activity, raising serious concerns

for the planet's future, the UN weather agency said.

"We are expecting to see major impacts on agriculture. During the previous heatwaves in Europe, we lost big parts of harvest. And under the current situation -we are already having the global food crisis because of the war in Ukraine - this heatwave is going to have a further negative impact on agricultural activities," warned Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General of the WMO at a presser here to launch the latest extreme weather findings.

In several countries, some economic sectors - including tourism that has only begun to fully recover in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic - are suffering as a result. **ANI**

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WORLD

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Ranil Wickremesinghe wins presidential elections in Sri Lanka, succeeds Rajapaksa



COLOMBO: Sri Lanka's Acting President Ranil Wickremesinghe won the Presidential election on Wednesday amid the ongoing economic turmoil in the island nation.

Ranil Wickremesinghe was elected as the new President following a vote in Sri Lankan Parliament. He received 134 votes. SLPP parliamentarian Dullas Alahapperuma received 82 votes while National People's Power (NPP) leader Anura Kumara Disanayake received three votes.

Wickremesinghe, who has served as the Prime Minister of the island nation six times, was among the top for the Presidential election in which members of the House voted through a secret ballot. Earlier, Wickremesinghe was appointed as the new president of Sri Lanka after Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled abroad after his palace was stormed by angry protesters amid the unprecedented economic crisis.

The Daily Mirror reported that Sri Lankan Speaker said MPs were not allowed to bring mobile phones into the House, during the election after some party leaders had informed their MPs to take

pics of their ballot papers.

Earlier, Wickremesinghe was regarded as one of the top candidates. However, the tables turned after Sri Lanka's main opposition leader Sajith Premadasa yesterday withdrew his candidature from the presidential race and said he was supporting rival candidate Dullas Alahapperuma for the top post.

Premadasa took to Twitter to say that his party the Samagi Jana Balawegaya and its alliance and opposition partners will support Alahapperuma, an MP of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), who is in the fray for the upcoming presidential elections.

Premadasa said that he is heading with this decision as he seeks the "greater good" for Lankans. "For the greater good of my country that I love and the people I cherish I hereby withdraw my candidacy for the position of President. Samagi Jana Balawegaya and our alliance and our opposition partners will work hard towards making Dullas Alahapperuma victorious," he tweeted.

Earlier, Alahapperuma was campaigning hard for the presi-

dential race along with his prime ministerial candidate Sajith Premadasa to persuade the Tamil MPs to vote for Dullas, the *Daily Mirror* reported.

Earlier, former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa had offered his resignation after fleeing the country to Singapore. The president first flew to the Maldives after tens of thousands of protesters stormed his official residence in the capital Colombo.

The economy in Sri Lanka is bracing for a sharp contraction due to the unavailability of basic inputs for production, an 80 per cent depreciation of the currency since March 2022, coupled with a lack of foreign reserves and the country's failure to meet its international debt obligations.

Hundreds of Sri Lankans continue to queue up at petrol pumps across the debt-ridden country every day amid fuel shortage, and a large number of people are ditching their cars and motorcycles for bicycles for their daily commute.

The economic crisis which is the worst in Sri Lanka's history has prompted an acute shortage of essential items like fuel. **ANI**

HEATWAVE

Wildfire in northern Athens forces evacuations

ATHENS: A massive wildfire broke out on Tuesday in the northern suburbs of Athens, damaging homes and forcing evacuations of local communities.

"So far, the operational center of the National Center for Emergency Care has not received calls for injuries or respiratory problems due to the fire," Fire Service spokesperson Ioannis Artopoios told a televised emergency press briefing. He said it had been a difficult day, as smoke blanketed part of the Greek capital. After sunset, sparkling flames were visible from Piraeus port and Evia island.

According to Greek meteorologists, strong winds up to 8 on the Beaufort scale hampered firefighting efforts.

In addition, the fire was blazing on two fronts, Greek national broadcaster ERT reported.

Altogether 420 firefighters, 15 waterbombing aircraft and nine helicopters have joined the rescue operation, Artopoios announced.

Thousands of residents from four communities at the foothills of Pentelikon mountain have been evacuated after their houses were engulfed in flames, said sources with the Fire Service. The exact number of damaged homes is yet unknown. **ANI**

Invitation to Tender

Dhofar Integrated Services Company S.A.O.C (DISC) invites reputable contractor for carrying out following works in Dhofar Region.

Tender Reference	DISC/Tender/2022/114
Subject	UNE - LOT 07 B - 2022
Tender Fee	RO. 52,500 Inclusive VAT (5%) Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DISC's office or send an e-mail to below mention mail id for tender document.
Experience	The tenderers shall be registered electrical contractor with Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) Oman (Minimum C-Grade for 11 kV jobs and D-Grade for LV jobs) and should have performed similar UNE jobs in Sultanate of Oman.
Pre-qualification	Bids to be attached along with valid "DCRP Registration Certificate" and valid "CEP Authorized card copy issued by DISC" Shall only consider for evaluation, Further, Tenderers will be evaluated as per the pre-qualification criterion specified in the Tender documents.
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 4 th August 2022
Site Visit	N/A
Last date for seeking pre Bid clarification	N/A
Last date for Response for pre bid clarification	N/A
Last date for submission of bids	03:00 PM on 14 th August 2022
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, purchase@disc.nama.om

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

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MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,280.81 points, up by 0.96 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.03 per cent at 458 points. Oman Chlorine, up 9.42 per cent, was the top gainer while SMN Power Holding, down 10 per cent, was the top loser.



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Total value of GCC contracts awarded up 11.7% to \$22.8bn

Saudi Arabia and Oman reported higher contract awards during the quarter that more than offset a dip in awards in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the UAE

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Total value of GCC contracts awarded increased by 11.7 per cent year-on-year during the second quarter of 2022 to \$22.8 billion against \$20.4 billion in the same period of 2021, according to a new report.

"Saudi Arabia and Oman reported higher contract awards during the quarter that more than offset a dip in awards in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the UAE, the



REPORT: Saudi Arabia, the GCC's largest projects market, recorded the biggest year-on-year increase in the value of contracts awarded during the second quarter of 2022 which reached \$16.5 billion in 2022 as compared to \$9.3 billion in Q2-2021. - Supplied picture

Kuwait-based Kamco Invest, said in its latest report.

Saudi Arabia, the GCC's largest projects market, recorded the biggest year-on-year (y-o-y) increase in the value of contracts awarded during the second quarter (Q2) of 2022 which reached \$16.5 billion in 2022 as compared to \$9.3 billion

in Q2-2021. Contracts awarded as part of the \$500 billion Neom project boosted the kingdom's project awards during the quarter. According to MEED, three out of the ten biggest contracts awarded in the Kingdom during Q2-2022 were from the Neom project.

Comparatively, the UAE record-

ed a 46.4 per cent fall in y-o-y projects awarded in Q2-2022 which reached \$3.1 billion.

Saudi Arabia represented 77.2 per cent of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) contract awards in Q2-2022. Total projects awarded in Kuwait during Q2-2022 declined by 67.9 per cent to \$521

million down from \$1.6 billion for Q2-2021.

In terms of sector classification, the Transportation sector witnessed the biggest increase in terms of absolute value during the quarter with an increase of \$4.8 billion in new contracts to reach a total of \$7.7 billion during Q2-2022. Similarly, the value of new contracts in the GCC Oil Sector increased almost threefold to reach \$4.5 billion during Q2-2022 rising from \$1.6 billion during Q2-2021. On the other hand, the Gas, Construction and Power sectors witnessed a y-o-y decline in awards. Project awards in the Construction sector contracted 36 per cent y-o-y to \$4.3 billion during the quarter.

Saudi Arabia has enjoyed the best Q2 contract awards since 2014 mainly reflecting elevated oil prices, although the Kingdom has clearly stated that it wants to separate project awards and oil market performance. Total Saudi project awards in Q2-2014 stood at \$19.5 billion as compared to \$16.5 billion during Q2-2022. The value of contracts awarded in the Kingdom during Q2-2022 witnessed a quarter-of-quarter (q-o-q) increase of 106.7 per cent or 8.5 billion from \$8.0 billion in Q1-2022. In terms

of sectors, the Transportation sector leapt into the lead as the largest sector by the value of awarded projects among the sectors accounting for 36.1 per cent of the total projects awarded in the Kingdom during Q2-2022 mainly due to Neom awards of transport and utility infrastructure during the quarter.

Rest of GCC

Total Q2-2022 contracts awarded in Qatar fell by 27.3 per cent to reach \$1.3 billion as compared to \$1.8 billion during Q2-2021. Despite the fall in total contracts during the quarter, Qatar has managed to award notable contracts such as the \$850 million contract to build four LNG carriers to South Korea's Daewoo.

In Oman, total projects awarded during the quarter jumped almost three times to reach \$1.1 per cent up from \$390 million during Q2-2021. One notable project awarded in the Sultanate during Q2-2022 is the \$195 million project to construct a plaza, and commercial and residential buildings as parts of the \$1.6 billion Yiti Sustainable City project.

Project awards in Bahrain also showed a decline during the quarter to reach \$228 million down from \$1.4 billion in Q2-2021.

BY ASMED MADAYN

New terms for land lease agreement announced

MUSCAT: The Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (ASMED) has unveiled terms and conditions for those who wish to register to the land usufruct ownership system.

The announcement is a step forward before publication of the advertisement (for SMEs) to contest opportunities made available via the land usufruct system. The advertisement points to the availability of plans (for use of land by usufruct) in five governorates, as follows:

In Al Dakhiliyah Governorate (Khumaila in the Wilayat of Bahla, Al Dasr industrial plan in the Wilayat of Samayil); in Al Dhahirah Governorate (the industrial estate's plan in the Wilayat of Yanqul, and Al Busaili plan in the Wilayat of Dhank).

In North Al Batinah: Al Hamliyyah plan in the Wilayat of Shinas, the industrial estate's plan in the Wilayat of Liwa, the industrial estate's plan in the Wilayat of Saham and Al Sarhat plant in the Wilayat of Al Khabourah.

In the Governorate of Al Wus-ta: One land plan in the Wilayat of Mahout (Haj plan).

In the Governorate of North Al Sharqiyah: one land plan in the Wilayat of Al Mudhaibi.

Incentives

ASMED drafted incentives to encourage entrepreneurs, among them — nominal fees (suitable for SMEs), a grace period for the finalisation of the project within a specific work plan and giving priority to the beneficiaries in the fields of funding, marketing and training. -ONA

Ibri Industrial City implementing 23 projects worth over OMR9mn



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn) is currently implementing the construction project of Ibri Industrial City, where the completion rate of the infrastructure project in Phase One has surpassed 27 per cent.

Phase One of the project is being developed on an area of 3 million sqm and incorporates road works, services networks such as sewage, rain and telecom networks, and

wadi protection walls.

The number of localised projects in Ibri Industrial City in Al Dhahirah governorate has reached 23 projects on a total area of 250,000 sqm and an investment value exceeding OMR9 million, informed Eng. Nasser Al Mabsali, Director General of Ibri Industrial City. These projects represent several sectors including building materials, oil and gas services, food-stuff and warehouses.

Al Mabsali pointed out that Ibri Industrial City is located on an

area spanning 10 million sqm, and aims at localising a variety of industrial, commercial and service activities such as light and medium industries, commercial projects, and administrative offices, industrial workshops, warehouses, and workforce township.

Madayn floated a tender earlier this year as an investment opportunity to establish a one-stop shop comprising a petrol station, rest area, and service station for trucks and vehicles passing through the road to Saudi Arabia.



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MARKET



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MSX index ends higher

Oman Chlorine, up 9.42 per cent, was the top gainer while SMN Power Holding, down 10 per cent, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,280.81 points, up by 0.96 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.03 per cent at 458 points. Oman Chlorine, up 9.42 per cent, was the top gainer while SMN Power Holding, down 10 per cent, was the top loser.

Shares of Galfar Engineering were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 393 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR3.43 million, with more than 11.39 million shares changing hands.

Out of 45 traded securities, 18 advanced, 11 declined, and 16 remained unchanged.

At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for OMR203,000 while domestic investors were net buyers for OMR179,000, followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR24,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6,808.99 points, up 0.79 per cent. Prices of HSBC Bank Oman, National Bank Oman, Taageer Finance, Takaful Oman and Ahli Bank were up by 5.43 per cent,

3.45 per cent, 3.37 per cent, 2.17 per cent and 0.79 per cent respectively. Prices of DIDIC, United Finance, Al Anwar Investment, Al Sharqia Investment and Al Madina Takaful were down by 8 per cent, 4.04 per cent, 2.63 per cent, 2.44 per cent and 2.2 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,715.78 points, up 0.28 per cent. Prices of Oman Chlorine, Construction Materials, Oman Fisheries, Galfar Engineering and Al Maha Ceramics were up by 9.42 per cent, 7.6 per cent, 1.82 per cent, 1.7 per cent and 0.82 per cent respectively.

Prices of Voltamp Energy and Gulf Mushroom Products were down by 4.04 per cent and 1.06 per cent respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.31 per cent before closing at 1,617.64 points. Prices of Dhofar Generating, Musandam Power, Ooredoo, Oman Telecom and Oman Oil Marketing were up by 7.81 per cent, 2.52 per cent, 2.22 per cent, 0.89 per cent, and 0.49 per cent respectively. Prices of SMN Power Holding, Shell Oman Marketing and Al Jazeera Services were down by 10 per cent, 2.38 per cent and 0.69 per cent respectively. –

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INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,281.38	4,240.21	4,280.81	4,240.21	40.60	0.96
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,808.99	6,742.48	6,808.99	6,755.93	53.06	0.79
Industry Index	5,719.19	5,700.07	5,715.77	5,700.07	15.71	0.28
Services Index	1,626.72	1,612.65	1,617.64	1,612.65	4.99	0.31
MSX Shariah Index	460.91	457.18	458.00	458.13	-0.13	-0.03
MSX TR INDEX	5,396.89	5,345.00	5,396.18	5,345.00	51.18	0.96
FINANCIAL TR IDX	7,124.84	7,055.25	7,124.84	7,069.32	55.53	0.79
SERVICES TR IDX	1,682.00	1,667.45	1,672.61	1,667.45	5.16	0.31
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	5,935.56	5,915.71	5,932.01	5,915.71	16.30	0.28

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
11,394,319	3,430,586	393	22,583,035,808	18	11	16	45

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST RD	LAST OFFER	P/B VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM00000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	100	7	1	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.064	0.005	7.813	0.069	0.058	0.069	0.100	15,334,500
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	1,200,500	285,194	18	0.234	0.240	0.234	0.240	0.232	0.008	3.448	0.240	0.224	0.240	0.100	390,227,125
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	183,200	18,911	20	0.091	0.093	0.091	0.092	0.089	0.003	3.371	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100	29,796,886
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	863,437	319,664	19	0.360	0.374	0.360	0.368	0.360	0.008	2.222	0.368	0.368	0.372	0.100	238,547,477
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	525,560	477,208	19	0.908	0.908	0.908	0.908	0.900	0.008	0.889	0.908	0.908	0.912	0.100	681,000,000
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	534	262	3	0.486	0.490	0.486	0.490	0.486	0.004	0.823	0.490	0.490	0.490	0.100	26,950,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	110,942	14,094	4	0.127	0.128	0.127	0.128	0.127	0.001	0.787	0.128	0.125	0.128	0.100	249,556,156
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	153,305	47,206	6	0.306	0.308	0.304	0.308	0.306	0.002	0.654	0.308	0.299	0.308	0.100	205,856,551
OM0000003234	RENAISSANCE SER	238,300	109,188	8	0.458	0.460	0.458	0.458	0.456	0.002	0.439	0.458	0.458	0.458	0.100	108,275,760
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,851,356	991,631	36	0.534	0.538	0.534	0.538	0.536	0.002	0.373	0.538	0.538	0.538	0.100	2019,220,810
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	33,250	3,558	2	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.000	0.000	0.107	0.106	0.108	0.100	14,980,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST & FIN.	146,600	18,708	13	0.128	0.128	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.000	0.000	0.127	0.126	0.127	0.100	30,099,000
OM0000003000	AI MAHA MARKETING	9,570	6,737	2	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.704	0.000	0.000	0.704	0.704	0.708	0.100	48,576,000
OM0000002236	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	4,718	1,258	4	0.288	0.288	0.286	0.286	0.288	-0.002	-0.694	0.286	0.282	0.287	0.100	17,504,422
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	68,000	5,470	5	0.081	0.081	0.080	0.080	0.082	-0.002	-2.439	0.080	0.075	0.081	0.100	7,200,000
Total	15	5,389,372	2,297,196	180												
Parallel Market																
OM0000002341	OMAN CHLORINE	22,398	9,362	4	0.418	0.418	0.418	0.418	0.382	0.036	8.424	0.418	0.000	0.418	0.100	28,467,339
OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION M.	5,000	405	2	0.080	0.085	0.080	0.085	0.079	0.006	7.595	0.085	0.000	0.084	0.100	5,312,500
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	467,000	62,584	5	0.130	0.136	0.130	0.136	0.129	0.007	5.426	0.136	0.130	0.140	0.100	272,042,539
OM0000000781	MUSANDAM POWER	1,000	322	2	0.318	0.326	0.318	0.326	0.318	0.008	2.516	0.326	0.318	0.326	0.100	22,947,140
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	60,000	2,770	4	0.047	0.047	0.045	0.047	0.046	0.001	2.174	0.045	0.044	0.045	0.100	11,750,000
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	6,443	721	3	0.110	0.112	0.110	0.112	0.110	0.002	1.818	0.112	0.110	0.112	0.100	20,392,781
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	2,815,482	336,912	99	0.118	0.121	0.118	0.120	0.118	0.002	1.695	0.121	0.121	0.121	0.100	24,358,374
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	100,000	82,800	11	0.828	0.828	0.828	0.828	0.824	0.004	0.485	0.828	0.828	0.840	0.100	50,735,700
OM0000001301	DHOFAR CATTLE	71,678	5,448	10	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.076	0.000	0.000	0.076	0.076	0.080	0.100	6,144,600
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	22,500	1,812	8	0.080	0.081	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.100	2,685,716
OM0000001416	RAYSUT CEMENT	82,797	12,420	5	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.000	0.000	0.150	0.137	0.000	0.100	30,000,000
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	10,000	830	1	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.000	0.000	0.083	0.082	0.083	0.100	10,115,625
OM0000000476	BANK DHOFAR	100,000	11,500	7	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.000	0.000	0.115	0.115	0.118	0.100	344,580,415
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	27,714	2,633	3	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.096	0.100	212,510,538
OM0000004735	SEMBOCORP SALALAH	17,400	1,201	2	0.070	0.070	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.000	0.000	0.069	0.069	0.071	0.100	65,865,465
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	469,111	21,579	11	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.046	0.045	0.046	0.100	31,044,822
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	687,090	34,393	9	0.051	0.051	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.049	0.048	0.050	0.100	71,667,472
OM0000002267	GULF MUSHROOM P	35,100	9,888	4	0.286	0.286	0.280	0.280	0.283	-0.003	-1.060	0.280	0.280	0.280	0.100	11,649,476
OM0000001580	MUSCAT FINANCE	372,198	25,169	17	0.068	0.068	0.067	0.067	0.068	-0.001	-1.471	0.067	0.066	0.067	0.100	20,578,804
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	34,248	3,056	7	0.092	0.092	0.089	0.089	0.091	-0.002	-2.198	0.089	0.088	0.091	0.100	15,392,700
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MKK	1,230	1,009	1	0.820	0.820	0.820	0.820	0.840	-0.020	-2.381	0.820	0.820	0.840	0.100	77,900,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	1,036	77	1	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.076	-0.002	-2.632	0.074	0.074	0.076	0.100	14,800,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	20,160	1,915	3	0.096	0.096	0.095	0.095	0.099	-0.004	-4.040	0.095	0.095	0.097	0.100	33,168,719
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	1,482	145	3	0.099	0.099	0.095	0.095	0.099	-0.004	-4.040	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.100	77,723,261
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INT.	17,334	1,993	2	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.125	-0.010	-8.000	0.115	0.115	0.000	0.100	47,063,326
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	35,776	1,610	4	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.050	-0.005	-10.000	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.100	8,983,602
Total	26	5,484,177	632,553	228												

GOVERNMENT DATA

FDI equity inflow in India's R&D sector rises to \$343.64 million

NEW DELHI: India attracted \$343.64 million in foreign direct investment (FDI) equity inflow in the research and development (R&D) sector during the calendar year 2021, which is 516 per cent higher when compared to the previous year, as per government data released on Tuesday.

FDI is permitted under a 100 per cent automatic route in the R&D sector subject to applicable laws/regulations, security and other conditionalities. Karnataka is the top FDI Equity recipient state in R&D during 2021 followed by Telangana and Haryana.

The states like Telangana, Karnataka, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu registered more than 250 per cent growth in FDI in R&D in 2021 when compared with the previous year, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry.



Singapore is the top investing country in R&D during 2021 with a 40 per cent share of total FDI Equity in R&D followed by Germany (35 per cent) and the USA (11 per cent).

Further, FDI Equity inflow from several countries like Germany, Mauritius, France, Singapore, Oman and USA showed an increase of more than 200 per cent as compared to 2020.

Daimler Truck Innovation Center was the top FDI Equity inflow recipient company in R&D during 2021 with a 35 per cent share of total FDI Equity in R&D followed by Aragen Life Sciences Private Limited (34 per cent) and Stelis Biopharma Private Limited (21 per cent), the Ministry of Commerce & Industry said in a statement.

These trends indicate a robust

and growing R&D sector which would benefit the economy by driving innovation, increasing productivity, thereby leading to higher economic growth, the ministry said.

Research and Development (R&D) plays an important role in the development of a knowledge-based economy that can pave the way for higher economic growth.

Foreign Direct Investment infuses long-term sustainable capital in the economy and contributes towards technology transfer, development of strategic sectors, greater innovation, competition and employment creation amongst other benefits. It has been a continuous endeavour of the Government to attract and promote R&D-intensive FDI in order to supplement domestic capital, technology and skills for accelerated economic growth and development, the ministry said. -ANI

STOCK MARKETS

Asian shares extend global rally as dollar languishes

HONG KONG: Asian shares extended a global rally as strong US corporate earnings and the expected resumption of Russian gas supply to Europe helped lift sentiment and ease fears of a recession, while the dollar was mired near two-week lows.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan (MI-APJ0000PUS) surged 1.1 per cent in early Asia trade,



HOW ONE WOMAN TOOK CONTROL OF HER RARE DISEASE AND ACHIEVED HER DREAM

Natalie Metzger is living a life that once seemed impossible. At only 35 years old, she's already an award-winning director, writer and producer. She travels extensively, and her films have premiered at top festivals around the world including Sundance, Cannes and more. Being a filmmaker was an ambitious goal, but it wasn't until Natalie took charge of her life behind the camera and became an advocate for her health that pursuing this Hollywood dream was even an option.

Rare and potentially fatal

Natalie lives with a very rare and potentially life-threatening genetic condition called hereditary angioedema, or HAE. It causes unpredictable episodes of uncontrolled and often severe swelling that can impact areas of the body such as the hands, feet, stomach, face and even the throat, which can be fatal.

Natalie's father has HAE, which meant she had a 50-50 chance of inheriting the disease. When she began having symptoms at the age of 17, her parents' fear was confirmed — she, too, had HAE.

HAE swelling can last for days, and attacks can happen multiple times per month, impacting the ability to participate in everyday activities such as school, work and social events. Natalie's attacks worsened as she went to college, and HAE began taking a significant toll on her life.

"I was having an attack every couple of weeks," said Natalie. "I was in and out of the hospital all of the time."

While HAE episodes can occur for seemingly no reason, common triggers include physical injury, as well as Natalie's most frequent cause of attacks — stress. Since stress comes with filmmaking and extensive travel is also required - often daunting for those with HAE given the need to be near a hospital knowledgeable of and able to treat HAE in case of a severe attack — Natalie thought that she might not be able to pursue it as a career.

But, determined to live the life she wanted to live, Natalie began taking a proactive approach to managing her HAE. And things began to change.

A proactive approach

HAE can be treated in two ways. Acute medication is used to lessen symptoms when an attack is imminent or underway. And preventative medication is taken on an ongoing basis to help prevent HAE attacks and minimise their severity. Because HAE is a lifelong disease, preventing attacks can be a key part of regaining a sense of normalcy.

For Natalie, finding the right prophylactic treatment has made all the difference. Her swelling attacks are now well controlled, and if she has occasional breakthrough swelling, it's generally mild.

"When I was in college and considering what I was going to be doing with my life, I wasn't sure I'd be able to handle the demands of film because of my HAE, but on demand and preventative medications have been life changing," said Natalie. "They've really allowed me to have the career of my dreams - I'm able to make movies and go all around the world for film productions and festivals. I don't think I would be able to be a filmmaker if I didn't have my medication."

Treatment advances for HAE have come a long way in recent years and include medications that are taken

in different ways, requiring varying levels of skill and time commitment to administer, giving those with HAE more options for finding the right treatment plan that fits their unique needs and lifestyle.

"We talk a lot about the burden of the condition, but the burden of treatment is something we've become more aware of as options have advanced," said Marc A. Riedl, MD, Clinical Director, US HAEA Angioedema Centre.

"When designing a treatment plan, patients should be open with their medical team about both their treatment goals and how treatment fits into their lifestyle. We're now reaching a point where people with HAE are often able to do the things they want in life without HAE or their treatments interfering."

While many with HAE have learned to tolerate difficult or inconvenient aspects of their treatment or may be afraid to "rock the boat" by trying a new treatment option, Natalie's experience shows that investing the time to find the right approach can be life changing.

"I've tried all of the preventative treatments over the years - intravenous, subcutaneous, and oral," said Natalie. "They're getting easier and easier to use and less invasive on my day-to-day life. It's amazing to think how far I've come personally and how far we've evolved in the HAE space." -BPT



While HAE episodes can occur for seemingly no reason, common triggers include physical injury, as well as Natalie's most frequent cause of attacks — stress. Since stress comes with filmmaking and extensive travel is also required — often daunting for those with HAE given the need to be near a hospital knowledgeable of and able to treat HAE in case of a severe attack — Natalie thought that she might not be able to pursue it as a career.

IMPORTANT ADVICE FOR THOSE FACING HEALTH CHALLENGES

GIVEN ALL THAT NATALIE HAS BEEN THROUGH, SHE HAS A FEW PIECES OF ADVICE FOR ANYONE NAVIGATING THE CHALLENGES OF A CONDITION LIKE HAE:

- 1 ASSESS WHAT YOU REALLY WANT:** Think about your goals. Consider your lifestyle, what factors are most important to you, the impact of the disease on your life and how treatment fits into it.
- 2 HAVE A PLAN:** Preparation is key, especially when living with a chronic condition. Whether jotting down notes in advance of a doctor's appointment or ensuring you travel with the necessary medication, having a plan is essential to success.
- 3 GO FOR IT:** Be open and honest with your medical team. Have an empowered conversation about your goals in treatment and life. You should have a shared voice in your treatment decision-making process — studies show it leads to better outcomes.

Natalie recently got married and is looking ahead to what life and her busy career have in store for her next.



Through my work, I'm able to pursue another passion —raising awareness of HAE and highlighting the stories of people impacted by this rare disease, as I did in the documentary 'Special Blood,'" she said. "I will continue to advocate for those with HAE to take charge of their health and pursue their own dreams while I live out mine."



Shane Watson, Prior to play Season 2 of Legends League Cricket in Oman

After the success of Season 1, Legends League Cricket is back with the second season from September 20

NEW DELHI: Season 2 of Legends League Cricket is becoming bigger with every passing day by adding punch with more legendary players to its list.

After the success of Season 1, Legends League Cricket is back with the second season from September 20 to October 10, 2022, which would feature 4 privately owned franchisees.

After stalwarts like Virender Sehwag (India), Harbhajan Singh (India), Muralitharan (Sri Lanka), Irfan Pathan (India), Eoin Morgan (England), Mitchell Johnson (Australia) and a lineup of other international players, it has added Shane Watson (Australia), Ravi Bopara (England), Matt Prior (England), Chris Tremlett (England), Parveez Maharoof (Sri Lanka), Romesh Kalu-



witharana (Sri Lanka) and Upul Chandana (Sri Lanka) to the players list on Wednesday. Raman Raheja, Co-Founder and CEO of Legends League Cricket said in a statement, "Addition of these iconic players for the Season 2 of Legends League Cricket have taken up the excitement to the next level among fans. We welcome them to the Legends team and looking forward to watch them

recreate the magic again on the field providing enhanced entertainment to the viewers.

Earlier last week iconic players like Bret Lee, Yusuf Pathan, Joginder Sharma, Liam Plunkett, Monty Panesar, Pravin Tambe, Naman Ojha, S. Badrinath, Stuart Binny, and Asghar Afghan have confirmed their participation to play in the second season of Legends League of Cricket.

The first season of Legends League Cricket had former cricketers from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Australia, and England, among other cricket nations divided into three teams representing India, Asia and the rest of the World. Cricket fans all across the world saw the Legends of Cricket sweat it out at their competitive best during the first season. **ANI**

Pakistan win first Test against Sri Lanka by 4 wickets

GALLE: A staggering performance from Abdullah Shafique helped Pakistan beat Sri Lanka by four wickets in the first Test of the two-match Test series on Wednesday at Galle.

Shafique remained unbeaten on 160 while Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan also assisted in the run chase. At the end of day four, the visitors finished at 222/3, with Mohammad Rizwan 7* and Abdullah Shafique 112* unbeaten at the crease.

Mohammad Rizwan put on a good partnership along with opener Abdullah Shafique who was still standing on the pitch at the score of 112. Pakistan got close to winning as only 115 runs were left thanks to the partnership of the duo.

Prabath Jayasuriya scalped his third wicket of the game which came from an lbw as Rizwan made his way back to the dugout at the score of 40. Agha Salman was up next in the batting order for Pakistan but he also could not accom-

pany Shafique as he gave away his wicket to Jayasuriya at only 12 runs. The bowler struck again bringing up his tally of wickets to four for the innings.

The score stood at 298 at 5 for Pakistan. Sri Lanka really needed the wicket of Shafique if they wanted to turn things around for them but he stood strong till the last. Hasan Ali who was up next for Pakistan also could not accompany the opener for much time as he got out for 5 runs at the hands of Dhananjaya de Silva.

The match resumed soon after a rain delay. Shafique hit the winning runs for the Pakistan team as he carried his team to victory in the first Test of the two-match Test series at Galle.

The second Test of the series was also transferred to Galle from Colombo amid the economic crisis in Sri Lanka which resulted in a number of protests around the country. **ANI**



ICC MEN'S ODI PLAYER RANKINGS

Jasprit Bumrah loses number one spot to Trent Boult

DUBAI: Despite India's 2-1 ODI series win against England, Men in Blue's top pacer Jasprit Bumrah slipped down to second place in the ICC Men's ODI Player Rankings after missing the third ODI in Manchester, with New Zealand's pace spearhead Trent Boult taking the top spot.

Matt Henry has moved up one place to seventh. West Indies fast bowler Alazarri Joseph (up three places to 18th), New Zealand spinner Mitchell Santner (up two places to 23rd), Nepal leg-spinner Sandeep Lamichhane (up six places to 33rd) and Scotland seamer Safyaan Sharif (up four places to 56th) are others to progress.

South African batter Rassie van der Dussen also achieved a career-best third position in the ICC Men's ODI Player Rankings following his match-winning knock of 134 runs against England in the first ODI at Chester-le-Street on Tuesday.

South Africa batter Rassie van der Dussen has attained a career-best third position in the ICC Men's ODI Player Rankings after



his superb century in the first ODI against England at Chester-le-Street on Tuesday.

The 33-year-old has gained three slots after smashing 134 off 117 balls against England, for

which he was named Player of the Match. Van der Dussen has also been in the top five in T20Is, ranked fourth in June last year.

Aiden Markram, who also played an important part in the

62-run win for South Africa, has moved up 15 slots to 61st after his knock of 77 while opener Janneman Malan is up one place to joint-35th with a score of 57. David Miller's 24 runs see him move up three

places to 24th. Fast bowler Anrich Nortje has reached 61st position, his haul of four for 53 lifting him 18 slots.

For England, Jason Roy has moved up one slot to 16th position among batters after scoring 43 against South Africa and 41 in the last match of the series against India. His team-mate David Willey has moved up two slots to 35th among bowlers.

India's architects of an impressive five-wicket win in Manchester that helped clinch the series against England, have surged up the rankings too. Rishabh Pant's unbeaten 125 off 113 balls has lifted him 25 places to 52nd while Hardik Pandya has progressed from 50th to 42nd after his 55-ball 71.

Pandya is also up 25 places to 70th among bowlers for his haul of four 24 while leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has advanced four places to reach 16th position after grabbing three for 60.

Others to move up the ODI rankings for batters this week include Bangladesh's Tamim Iqbal (up two

places to 17th) and Liton Das (up two places to 30th), West Indies' Nicholas Pooran (up four places to joint-35th), Scotland's Calum MacLeod (up three places to 48th) and Namibia's Gerhard Erasmus (up 21 places to 86th).

The list of bowlers sees Jasprit Bumrah cede top place to New Zealand's Trent Boult after missing the last match, while Matt Henry has moved up one place to seventh. West Indies fast bowler Alazarri Joseph (up three places to 18th), New Zealand spinner Mitchell Santner (up two places to 23rd), Nepal leg-spinner Sandeep Lamichhane (up six places to 33rd) and Scotland seamer Safyaan Sharif (up four places to 56th) are others to progress.

In the ICC Men's T20I Player Rankings, New Zealand batter Glenn Phillips has advanced five places to reach 30th position after his Player of the Match effort of 69 not out in the first match of their series against Ireland while fast bowler Lockie Ferguson has progressed 25 slots to 40th with a haul of four for 14. **ANI**

COMMENTARY

Hardik pulls off a heist

Anis Sajjan, Vice Chairman, Danube Group

Hardik Pandya once again showed why he is going to be the key man for India in the coming T20 World Cup happening in less than 100 days in Australia by first picking 4 crucial wickets and then scoring a match winning 71 runs of 55 balls.

He picked up the big wickets of Jason Roy, Ben Stokes, Jose Buttler and Liam Livingstone for just 24 runs and got crucial wickets for India when it mattered. Most of the wickets he got was bouncing out all the four batsman and playing with the egos of the English players.

All English players played into the hands of Hardik Pandya and wanted to go after him and paid the price by giving their wickets to Pandya who persisted with short ball inspite of going for some runs but in the end got the better of them.

And when India were chasing 259 runs, once again they lost their top order of Rohit Sharma, Shikhar Dhawan, Virat Kohli and Suryakumar



Yadav and were tottering at 81/4 and were staring at defeat, but he counter-attacked the English bowlers putting on a partnership of 133 with Rishab Pant before he got carried away and one shot too many and lost his wicket to the short ball which was his strength in bowling to a brilliant catch by Ben Stokes.

No doubt, Rishab Pant was equally important in India during the chase with a magnificent hundred, Hardik Pandya's all-round performance helped India pulling off the ODI series against England. He once again proved like in the IPL that he is India's X factor and the future captain of team India.

FOOTBALL

Juventus star Dybala signs for AS Roma

ROME: Paulo Dybala continues his journey in Italian football after signing a 3-year deal with AS Roma.

AS Roma announced the transfer of the 28-year-old forward on July 20. After spending seven seasons at Juventus, he decided to move forward and joined yet another big Italian club. Dybala was immensely successful during his time at Juventus and will be looking to replicate the same at Roma.

"The days that have led up to me signing this contract have been filled with so many emotions. The speed and determination with which Roma demonstrated just how much they wanted me made all the difference," said Dybala in a statement to the club website.

Roma has been Juventus's long-time opponents in the league and both the clubs have faced each other several times. The transfer of the Argentine to his opponent club was certainly an interesting decision.

"I am joining a team that is on the up, a club that continues to put in place strong foundations for the future, and a coach, Jose Mourinho, that it will be a privilege to work with," said the forward.

"As an opponent, I have always admired the atmosphere created



by the Roma fans - I now cannot wait for the chance to salute them while wearing this shirt," he added.

He will be part of Mourinho's project with the club. Last season Roma was crowned as the champions of the new European Competition, the UEFA Conference League.

During his time at Juventus, he won five league titles, four Coppa Italia and three Italian Super Cups. He will be leaving the Turin-

based club as a legend and will be remembered in the club's history.

The forward's international career has also been very astonishing. He won recently won the Finalissima with a victory over Italy at Wembley Stadium.

The Argentine has already joined his teammates at the club and will be training at Giallorossi's training camp in Portugal.

"Paulo's decision to join our project is a testament to the club's

credibility and a sign of the hard work that, all together, we are putting in to take Roma forward," Tiago Pinto, the club's General Manager added.

"Paulo is a world-renowned player who has won major trophies and gained global acclaim; he will bring that class with him to Roma and I am sure that, with him in the squad, we will be even stronger and more competitive," he continued. **ANI**



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ROUND-UP



ahlibank’s graduate programme welcomes its new batch of students

ahlibank’s management opened its doors for a new batch of graduates to join ahlibank and commence their career in banking through the prestigious two-year programme that will facilitate on-the-job training and skill refinement initiatives for enhanced career gains in the banking sector

MUSCAT: ahlibank continues its long-term commitment to empower Omani youth with leadership and professional skills to enhance their career development opportunities in the banking sector. Himam graduate programme has welcomed its new batch of graduates to its eighth edition. Following the success of the previous batches of Himam; ahlibank’s management is pleased to open its doors for a new batch of graduates to join ahlibank and commence their career in banking through the prestigious two-year programme that will facilitate on-the-job training and skill refinement

initiatives for enhanced career gains in the banking sector. Structured to meet the market’s changing needs, the intensive course will equip chosen candidates with hands-on experience in the sector, with practical inputs from professionals in the industry. Speaking on the sidelines of the induction ceremony, Hana Al Kharusi, General Manager –Corporate Banking, ahlibank, said: “This is a moment of pride and accomplishment for the bank. Since 2015, when we first launched the programme, we have been investing our resources in aiding and shaping Oman’s workforce with



requisite skills, and have achieved significant milestones every year, strengthening our foundation with trained employees who are well informed about the local and global banking industry. We have our finger on the pulse of the job market and are aware of the changing needs that require constant vigilance

to upgrade and update our course modules.” Highlighting the merits of the programme, Mohammed Mohsin Al Mufargi, AGM-Head of Human Resources, ahlibank, said, “At the core of Himam is the bank’s larger goal of partnering with the government in its youth development

initiatives. Our Program is conceptualised to meet the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, which calls on youth to share in the march towards economic competitiveness and social well-being. Accordingly, Himam has been steering the bank’s youth development agenda with its well-defined employment programme supported by training modules. It has significantly contributed to the development of leadership skills among the youth with professional coaches and mentors who have assimilated their expertise and experience to bring up a new generation of professionals. The course module is equally focused on building self-confidence and honing their acquired and inherited skills. “ahlibank is receptive to the needs of the market and has bolstered its sustainable business practices by strengthening and securing its human capital with training that is designed to build its competitiveness on the lines of regional and international job markets. Over the next two years, our new batch of graduates will get an insight into critical requirements of the industry to prove to be assets who will shape the next chapter of the bank’s success story. We trust their abilities and await their successful transition as professionals and leaders of the industry,” he added.

Besides theoretical training and practical experience, Himam programme provides graduates with opportunities to work across departments, thereby enhancing their banking skills through assigned managers, trainers, and specialists. As per the programme schedule, the chosen candidates are nominated - in the first year of their on-the-job training - to an in class room training for technical, functional and soft skills followed by a rotation across various departments of the bank while they simultaneously participate in group projects. Following that the bank awards trainees who have successfully cleared the programme and assigns them to certain departments, dependent on their leadership capabilities and acquired skills. It is worth mentioning that the Himam programme is one of the most important pioneering programs of ahlibank, which constitutes a starting point for young Omani graduates to start a successful career in the banking sector by providing them with the necessary relevant tools to contribute to the development and enhancement of their managerial and leadership skills.

IDEAL FOLDABLE PHONE

Huawei Mate Xs 2 is ultra-light, ultra-flat and super durable

MUSCAT: Huawei Mate Xs 2, Huawei’s brand-new flagship foldable smartphone, has taken a great design to even more heights. This ideal foldable phone is now ultra-flat, ultra-thin, ultra-light and super durable, thanks to the combination of innovative hardware with the ultimate smartphone experience. The new Falcon Wing Design design of the phone is a unique but functional approach as it brings with it a slew of advantages in terms of aesthetics and usability. Adding to it is the phenomenal True-Chroma Camera System and all-new Smart Multi-Window feature. But there’s more.

Innovative materials and new Falcon Wing Design Huawei Mate Xs 2 brings you the industry’s first Double-rotating Falcon Wing Hinge design to achieve an ultra-flat foldable screen. When the phone is opened, the screen becomes as flat and smooth as a mirror. The new design ensures that the hinge and the screen are precisely synchronised at different angles while reducing the screen-stretching caused by the folding of the hinge. The hinge uses ultra-light, high-strength steel, which has a substantial load-bearing capacity. As a result, Huawei Mate Xs 2 is both lighter and durable.

Huawei Mate Xs 2 also employs numerous other innovative materials. For instance, its backplane uses ultra-light glass fibres commonly used for aerospace industries, while the screen structure uses aerospace-grade titanium alloys. These materials reduce the phone’s overall weight while giving it excellent strength and fracture toughness. Consequently, it only weighs about 255g, with a thickness of merely 5.4mm when unfolded. Furthermore, the Composite Screen on the phone comprises four layers: a protective layer, a buffer layer, a barrier layer, and a display layer, which shares a similar design with the anti-collision system in cars. This shock barrier is there to improve the phone’s resistance to drops and impacts, enhancing the device’s durability.

True flagship camera experience The True-Chroma Camera System on the Huawei Mate Xs 2 consists of a 50MP True-Chroma Camera, a 13MP Ultra-Wide-Angle Camera, and an 8MP Telephoto Camera. The improved Huawei XD Optics, with its brand-new information recovery technology, elevates image clarity by 10%. Taking full advantage of the Huawei XD Fusion Pro True-Chroma Image Engine, coupled with the 10-Channel Multi-Spectrum Sensor and colour calibration with more than 2000 colours in P3 full



colour gamut, Huawei Mate Xs 2 allows users to capture all the vibrancy in the world accurately. The Mirror Shooting feature on the phone allows both the user and the subject to preview the real-time shot through the digital viewfinder of the camera on both screens at the same time. Huawei Mate Xs 2 has the new generation of AI Remove. After simply selecting “the Remove” function with one click, it can intelligently identify selected objects for removal when editing photos. The AI image processing technology can automatically identify the background and merge the colours and outlines to simplify the editing process.

Immersive experience with smart multi-window The phone incorporates a brand-new dynamic folding visual effect and some pre-installed dynamic wallpapers to go with it. When users unfold the phone, the desktop screen will automatically expand. Users can avail of the Split-screen function enabling collaboration and interaction between different applications for better continuity while multitasking. The phone even supports using two applications in parallel. For example, you can chat while editing emails, shop online while watching videos or take notes while reading. This helps users increase efficiency and speed. Swipe Gesture supports easy access and control of the floating windows, allowing buttery-smooth operations with one quick swipe. Users can swipe diagonally to the top left corner to split-screen; swipe diagonally to the top right corner for a new window pop-up; swipe sideways to minimise the window; swipe up for full-screen display, and swipe down to close the window instantly.

Brilliant 7.8” true-chroma foldable display Unfolded, Huawei Mate Xs 2 has a 7.8-inch True-Chroma Foldable Display, with a8:7.1 display ratio. Folded, the screen measures 6.5-inch with a 19:9 display ratio, comparable with a typical non-foldable smartphone. Having a resolution of 2480x2200 and a pixel density of 424ppi means that it has one of the highest resolutions and pixel densities among foldable phones. The Ultra HD True-Chroma Foldable Display brings clearer text and more refined images, delivering

the ultimate visual experience. Huawei Mate Xs 2 supports a refresh rate of up to 120Hz and a touch sampling rate of up to 240Hz, giving the device a faster screen response speed and a smoother display. The 1440Hz high-frequency PWM dimming minimises screen flicker, which helps to reduce eye strain and allows for a more eye-friendly experience, especially under dim light. It is also an HDR screen that faithfully reproduces 1.07 billion colours and supports the P3 wide colour gamut.

Long battery life and fast charging Huawei Mate Xs 2 delivers great standby battery life with a high capacity 4600mAh battery in its compact body. It supports 66W Huawei SuperCharge, which allows the phone to be charged to 90% in just 30 minutes. It uses an innovative parallel charging technique that increases the charging speed by 15%, allowing users to charge safely and quickly.

Industry’s first 3D fibreglass design for a perfect blend of texture and colour Huawei Mate Xs 2 features the industry’s first 3D Fibreglass Design for a more refined texture, giving a delicate, soft touch while reducing fingerprint smudges. The metal frame and leather-like pattern also bring a modern look and feel. The phone comes in two colourways, each with a different leather pattern, which is complementary to one another: the Black colourway with crosshatch leather texture and the White colourway with natural leather texture. Each colourway is unique and layered with exquisite details.

Dual stereo speakers for a stunning sound field To create a surround sound field, the phone uses ultra-thin and large-amplitude stereo sounds with a double-closed large sound cavity. There is also the new AI Sound Engine to enhance this effect. All of these together deliver a better stereo balance, taking the audio-visual experience to new heights. The device also supports a hands-free function to pick up sounds from up to three metres away, ensuring a clear and stable sound when making calls and video calls.

PROMOTION



Engineered to demand attention, Renault Koleos available on offer

MUSCAT: Renault Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles, has announced an attractive offer on Renault Koleos as part of its exclusive promotion for the benefit of its customers. Renault Koleos effortlessly blends refined luxury with functionality offering business class comfort for everyday adventure. Owners say it is a vehicle that offers the discerning driver a unique experience that combines innovative technology, unequalled comfort and uncompromising safety to perfectly serve all of their top-end vehicle expectations. As part of the Renault Oman special scheme, customers who buy Renault Koleos can enjoy free registration, free insurance, free periodic vehicle service package, three years/ 60000 km manufacturer warranty, free AAA assistance card, and reference programme among others. Social media users who participate in the promotional campaign will also be eligible for attractive prizes.

The Renault promotion which has already begun will go on till August 19. The unique offer boasts a host of advantages for customers purchasing efficient Renault Koleos. All customers purchasing Renault Koleos from Suhail Bahwan Automobiles will be eligible to participate in the campaign scheme. Vehicles purchased with commercial registration will not be eligible for the scheme. Vehicles bought for taxi, driving school, ministries, fleet, and rental usage will not be eligible for this scheme. A spokesperson for Renault Oman, from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles, said, “This is a great time to buy the athletic car. Well-defined edges make the overall profile of Koleos appear solid and athletic and are one of the most prominent features in

this new version. A great combination of power and refinement, the Koleos makes its presence felt with large shoulders and muscular side panels that are further enhanced by a robust front end; broad, smart-looking tires; and a distinctly large wheelbase.” All customers purchasing Renault Koleos during this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle registration. Applicable to the extent of private registration only. For commercial registrations, additional amount including passing needs to be borne by customer. All customers purchasing Renault Koleos during this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle insurance (Oman & UAE only). The insurance amount is applicable for private registrations only. For commercial registration, additional amount needs to be borne by the customer. All customers purchasing Renault Koleos during this scheme period will be eligible for Free Periodic Maintenance Service Package for 3 Years / 60,000km (whichever is earlier. This offer includes only the service intervals of 10,000km. Social Media users who will participate in this promotional campaign and other online challenges on @renaultoman Instagram will get fuel voucher worth of OMR 50 (3 nos.) / UV steriliser and wireless charger (four nos.) All customers purchasing Renault Koleos during this scheme period will be eligible for three years/100,000 km mileage warranty (whichever is earlier). All customers purchasing Renault Koleos during scheme period will receive Free AAA assistance card for first year only. Renault will generate references from people looking to buy a car. This reference will be generated from existing Renault cus-

tomers. The same person cannot refer himself but can refer multiple names. If any of the referred persons buy a Renault car, then the person who referred him will get 50RO Gift Voucher. This Gift voucher can be redeemed during vehicle service at the SBA workshop, Purchase of consumables from SBA counters, Purchase of parts and accessories from SBA counters. All such Gift Voucher winners will be declared on an ongoing basis. This Gift voucher is non-transferable and cannot be redeemed for cash or exchanged for credit. The Gift Voucher will be valid for 6 months from the date of issue. The voucher needs to be redeemed fully all at once. Part redemption will not be allowed. Renault Koleos SUV is engineered to demand attention and make heads turn. Offering off-road capability with its all-wheel drive transmission, Renault Koleos stands out with its assertive exterior design and enhanced interior comfort. With its athletic profile, robust front end, roomy seats, taut lines underscored with chrome, Renault Koleos allows owners to take their journey with confidence. Featuring a powerful and efficient new engine and more onboard technologies Renault Koleos fully embodies the values of the top of the Renault line-up. The Renault Koleos also comes with additional features, such as rich acoustics with the BOSE audio system, lighting options, multimedia, navigation, Bluetooth and driving assistance systems in addition to easy park assist. Renault Koleos has been capturing everyone’s attention in Oman with its charismatic, features rich and packed with safety attributes. If you are looking for a spacious SUV with elegant styling and unparalleled four-wheel drive technology, Renault Koleos is the car to buy.



ROUND-UP



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Bank Muscat extends special home and personal finance offer

Available to employees of government and quasi-government institutions as well as select Tier 1 companies, the special offer features highly-competitive interest rates starting at just 4.5 per cent for Baituna Home Finance and 4.75 per cent on Personal Finance

MUSCAT: In line with its customer-centric strategy of developing and offering the best services and facilities possible for its customers, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, has announced an extension of its discounted offers on Baituna and Personal Finance till September 30.

Available to employees of government and quasi-government institutions as well as select Tier 1 companies, the special offer features highly-competitive interest rates starting at just 4.5 per cent for Baituna Home Finance and 4.75 per cent on Personal Finance. Customers can also enjoy lower inter-

est rates on short-term personal financing that starts at just 4 percent for a tenor of up to 12 months.

On this occasion, Abdullah Tamman Al Mashani, General Manager – Products, Bank Muscat, said, “We are delighted to see rising demand for various financing products from our valued customers, especially at present, as they can take advantage of various special offers with reduced interest rates. The current offer was developed and launched as part of the bank’s ongoing efforts to enhance financial inclusion in the Sultanate, and to suit the needs of the largest number of customers. Bank Muscat is keen to provide the

latest products and services to our customers as part of our customer-centric vision and we are thankful for all their strong support as well

as confidence in the bank.”

To apply for Baituna home finance, customers may visit the bank’s Baituna sales centres in

Qurm, Mabelah, Barka, Sohar, Saham, Sur, Ibra, Nizwa, Ibri, Buraimi and Salalah or any Bank Muscat branch across different

governorates in Oman. Financing up to OMR500,000 and for a period up to 25 years is available to customers to construct or purchase new homes as well as to buy land for residential construction. Fast processing, documentation and prompt disbursement of financing make Baituna the best home finance option in Oman.

At the same time, customers who require personal finance can visit their nearest Bank Muscat branch with the required documents including a salary transfer letter from their employer and their ID cards, which will ensure speedy processing of their applications. Financing up to OMR200,000 is available to customers based on fulfilment of the eligibility criteria.

As the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate for the last four decades, Bank Muscat has the largest banking network in Oman with 146 retail banking branches and over 800 ATMs, CDMs and FFM. Its range of digital banking channels including Internet Banking and Mobile Banking are helping customers meet the vast majority of their financial needs 24/7. The bank offers various financing options aligned to customer needs and its aim of facilitating a high standard of living for people in Oman.

CAMPAIGN

FOR SUPPORTING ORGANISATION



Own Kia Seltos and get a chance to win fully paid trip to Fifa World Cup

MUSCAT: Own a Kia Seltos and get a chance to win a fully paid trip to watch Fifa World Cup event in Qatar. Kia customers owning a brand new Kia can get a chance to Scratch & Win more than 100 match tickets where they can witness teams like Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Japan and more, live in action. Apart from Fifa Qatar match tickets, customers will also get Comprehensive Service up to 50,000km and 1 Year Insurance. The campaign will end on November 4. (Conditions apply. Please visit Kia showroom for details.)

The Kia Seltos SUV is compact and exciting to drive. The Seltos combines advanced technical features, class-leading space and a suite of world-class safety features for memorable journeys.

It offers distinctive exterior design details, such as its long hood, a strong, character line on the front bumper, and sharp lines pressed into the bodywork. Seltos is equipped with intricate and sharply designed full LED headlights and taillights, providing the car with a commanding and confident presence on the road. For daytime driving, the car also has LED daytime running lights and rear lamps, and 3D multi-layer indicators to make it clear exactly where the Seltos is heading. For driving in foggy conditions, the car is also equipped with LED fog lights.

The interior of the Seltos contributes to making every drive amazing. The cabin is characterised by broad, sweeping shapes and highly technical details and is

equipped with a range of technologies to maximise convenience, connectivity and ease of use.

Drive Mode Select

Powering the Seltos is a 1.6-litre gasoline engine producing 121 HP paired to a six-speed automatic transmission (6AT). To further elevate the driving experience, the Seltos is equipped with a Drive Mode Select system that lets drivers adapt the car to their preferred style or the road conditions. Drivers can choose from ‘Normal’, ‘Eco’ and ‘Sport’ mode. The Eco mode is tuned to maximize vehicle range by using fuel-saving measures, while Sport mode increases responses from the steering and electric motor to maximize the dynamic driving feel of the car.

Normal mode provides a careful balance between the two.

The Seltos is a technologically advanced and refined compact SUV equipped with a range of advanced features. They include a Smart Key with Button Start, Auto Cruise Control, Terrain Mode System (Snow, Mud, Sand) & Electronic Stability Program (ESP).

The Seltos is fitted with dual airbags, as well as a suite of electronic vehicle safety systems. These include Kia’s Vehicle Stability Management system as standard, incorporating traction control and electronic stability program. It also includes Anti-lock Braking System, a Traction Control System as well as front and rear parking sensors, for assistance when parking. 17” Alloy Wheels are standard.

Association for Children with Disabilities honours Alizz Islamic Bank



MUSCAT: The Association for Children with Disabilities honoured Alizz Islamic Bank for its constant support of the organisation and its dedication to raising awareness by participating in the 7th ‘Tadamon’ Charity Exhibition which was held for three consecutive days at Al Shafaq Club in Azaiba.

The bank was represented at the event by Muna Al-Khusaibi, the Deputy Senior Manager of Marketing and Corporate Communications. The purpose of the exhibition was to encourage people to donate and engage in a social activity to provide the best services to the 450 children that the association support, including comprehensive early intervention programmes for children with disabilities from birth until the age of nine.

These programmes cover areas such as rehabilitation, social and psychological needs, daily life skills, education, and training, with a view to enrolling children

in regular schools, if possible, or develop their skills, and help them adapt to their disabilities, which in turn ensures a better quality of life for themselves and their families as well as facilitating their integration into society.

It is part of the strategy of Alizz Islamic Bank to embark on such humanitarian initiatives that serve society by taking care of each boy and girl who is going to take part in shaping Oman’s prosperous future.

The focus on children with disabilities and orphans in the Sultanate is driven by government initiatives, represented by the Ministry of Social Development, ensuring that those with disabilities obtain all rights, be on equal footing with all other citizens of the Sultanate, including their rights to be rehabilitated in different rehabilitation institutions, so that they can be integrated into the society to play their role in its prosperity side by side with their fellow Omanis.



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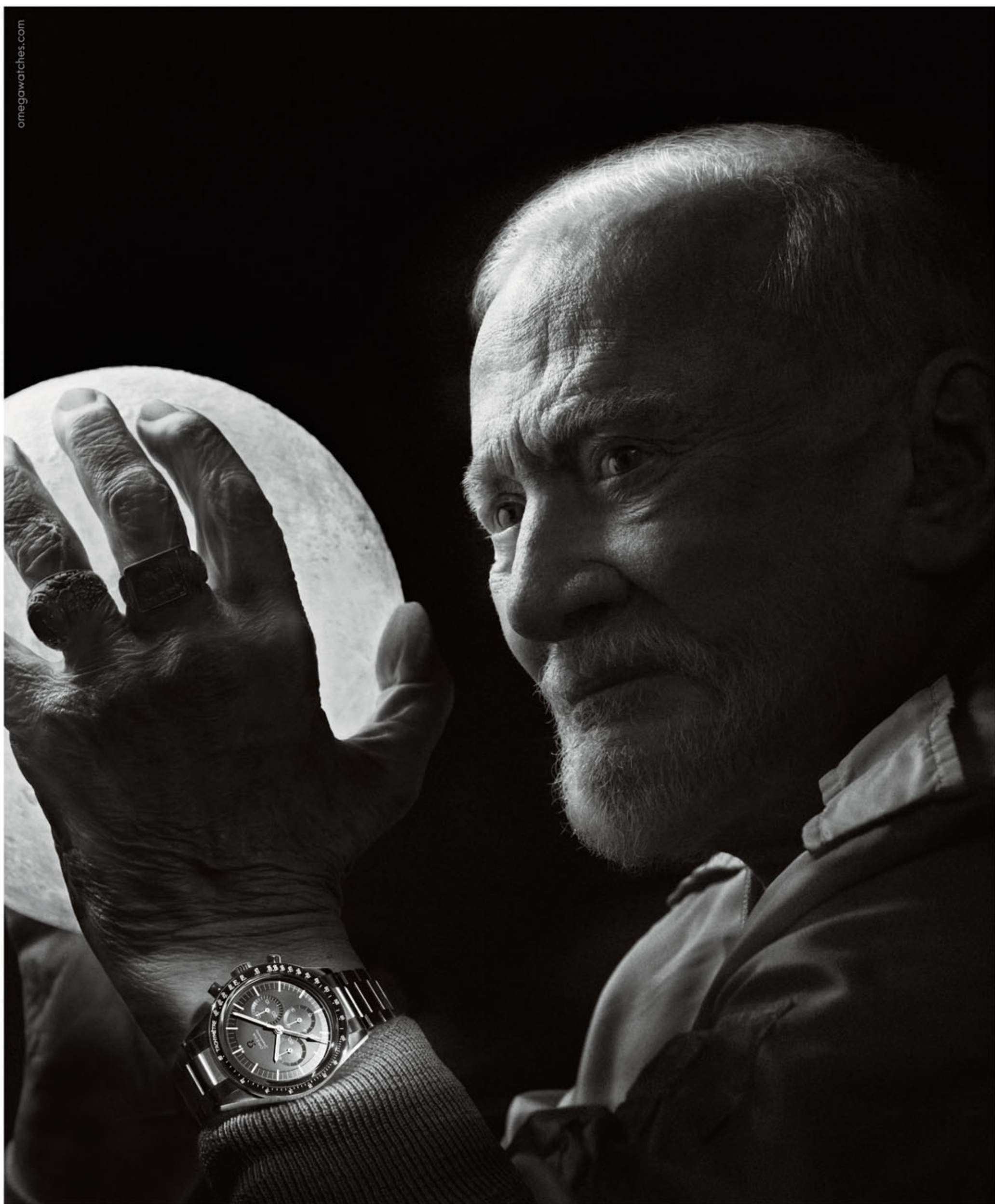
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