

HM THE SULTAN RECEIVES
MORE GREETINGS CABLES ON
51ST GLORIOUS NATIONAL DAY

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has received more cables of greetings on the occasion of the 51st Glorious National Day. **>A5**



HM GREETES LEBANON PRESIDENT

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Michel Aoun of the Lebanese Republic on his country's Independence Anniversary. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Aoun. His Majesty also wished the people of Lebanon further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**



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**Best Wishes to our Great Leader
and the People of Oman**



QATAR VISIT

'HM's visit to open new vistas for cooperation'

MUSCAT: Sheikh Jassim Abdulrahman Al Thani, Ambassador of Qatar to the Sultanate of Oman, has affirmed that the state visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik to Qatar on Monday and His Majesty's meeting with Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar reflect the strong relations binding the two countries at all levels.

The Ambassador told Oman News Agency (ONA) that this visit will pave the way for a new stage to meet aspirations of the two people. The visit, he said, will open vistas for many visions and projects that contribute to promoting the political, economic and cultural relations.

The ambassador explained that



this visit is a historic one as it the second external visit for His Majesty the Sultan since assuming power in January 2020. The visit is set to bring the two countries closer as it will open wider horizons for future cooperation, he said. **-ONA**

DELEGATED BY HM

Sayyid Asa'ad heads delegation at Oman Pavilion's 51st National Day celebrations



DUBAI: Delegated by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan led on Sunday the delegation taking part in celebrations of Oman Pavilion on the 51st Glorious National Day in Expo 2020 Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The delegation comprised Sayyid Hamood Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and a number of senior officials.

HH Sayyid Asa'ad and his ac-

companying delegation were received at the Leadership Pavilion by Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, Commissioner General of Expo 2020 Dubai and Reem Ebrahim Al Hashimi, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director General of Expo 2020 Dubai.

Held at Al Wasl Plaza, Expo 2020 Dubai, the ceremony began by hoisting the Sultanate of Oman's flag and playing the Royal Anthem.

HH Sayyid Asaad said in a speech on the occasion, read by Qais Al Yousef, said: "Oman's participation in this international event stems from the deep-rooted relations of the two countries". **>A4**

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES



OMAN Expats on National Day

1 Residents of the Sultanate of Oman expressed their happiness in being part of the joys of the glorious 51st National Day. **>A3**

WORLD UN on Afghanistan

2 The UN has warned that "Catastrophic and famine-like conditions" hang over Afghanistan's farmers and herders whose needs continue to worsen with winter. **>A6**

ROUND-UP Al Mouj Muscat wins

3 Al Mouj Muscat has won three awards recognising the high standards of Customer Experience present throughout Oman's leading lifestyle destination. **>B8**



The visions, results and proposals of the state's general budget draft figured in the discussions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Shura Council discussed on Sunday the draft state general budget for the fiscal year 2022, with Sultan Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance

During the meeting, Khalid Hilal Al Ma'awali, Chairman of the Shura Council, said that the session discussed the visions, results and proposals of the state's general budget draft and ideas that en-

hance the government's efforts to provide a decent life for the citizen in accordance with the directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik.

Several issues

The discussions, held behind closed doors, covered items of the draft budget, including estimates of general revenues and expenditure and the management of public debt.

They also covered subsidy policies, the position of government investments, economic diversification programmes, foreign direct investments (FDI) and privatisation programmes..

Opening speech

The session opened with a speech by the Chairman of the Shura Council, in which he welcomed the Minister of Finance, indicating that the session dis-

cussed the draft of the state's general budget for the fiscal year 2022 in order to identify the state's financial policies during next year and the financial situation one year after the approval of the financial balance plan (2020-2024) and the indicators which this plan showed, as well as the features of the next stage as part of the draft state general budget for the year 2022. **>A2**

ACHIEVER

Another peak climbed, another record for Nadhirah Al Harthy

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Omani mountaineer Nadhirah Al Harthy has set another record by climbing Mt. Ama Dablam, regarded as one of the most challenging peaks in the world.

Located in Nepal and with a summit at 6,812 metres, Ama Dablam's steep rise and treacherous terrain make climbing it a daunting task for all but the most experienced of mountaineers. This is Al Harthy's third mountain scaled in Nepal: she famously became the first Omani woman to scale Mt. Everest (the highest peak in the world at 8,848m) in 2019, and followed that up with a summiting of Mt. Manaslu, which stands at 8,163m and is ranked eighth in terms of the world's highest peaks.

"The time taken to ascend and descend from every mountain varies in terms of the difficulty of the terrain and its height," she revealed. "There are, of course, other factors that can interfere with your climb: bad weather conditions can delay your climbing time. Usually,

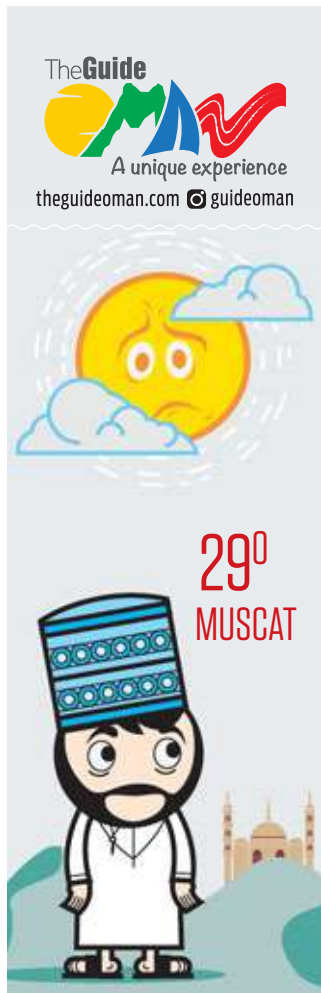


it takes more than a month to scale mountains that stand at more than 8,000m."

She added, "When you are up there, you realise the importance of things that are valuable: you understand the importance of spending time with family, how seriously you must take work, and how necessary it is to dedicate yourself to training for such climbs. Mountain climbing is relatively new in

Oman, and it is a sport that requires strength, determination, and plenty of financial support."

Nadhirah's accomplishments also help do her job far better: she serves as the assistant director for girl guides at the Directorate General of Scouts and Guides at the Ministry of Education. She is confident her successes have inspired other young women to pursue their ambitions. **>A2**





Dhuhr.....	11:58pm
Asr.....	3:04pm
Maghrib.....	5:25pm
Isha.....	6:39pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:08am

AT MARINA DUBAI

Sayyid Asa'ad welcomes Shabab Oman II in Expo 2020 Dubai

DUBAI: His Highness Sayyid Asa'ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan presided over an official welcome ceremony held for Shabab Oman II vessel at Marina Dubai on Sunday evening to take part in Expo 2020 Dubai.

Upon the arrival of the chief guest to the ceremony site, activities began when the joint music band of the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO) and the Royal Cavalry played the Royal Anthem of Oman and the National Anthem of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). When the vessel anchored in the site designated for her, the captain of Shabab Oman II vessel invited HH Sayyid Asa'ad and senior in-

vitees to embark on the vessel.

HH Sayyid Asa'ad greeted the vessel's crew and congratulated them for their voyage to the GCC states, as well as for their role in highlighting the noble message of Oman towards peace and comradeship through this vessel.

HH Sayyid Asa'ad said, "We encourage and support Omani youth. Shabab Oman II vessel will continue to convey message of peace and harmony among nations".

He added, "Shabab Oman II vessel has a successful journey as per her preset plans".

HH Sayyid Asa'ad affirmed, "Youths will enjoy everlasting memories inspired through these voyages via communication with communities".

HH Sayyid Asa'ad and the

guests were briefed on the vessel, her route and the goals achieved. Then, the chief guest toured the vessel. The welcome ceremony for the vessel was organised by the Commission General of Oman Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai. Present at the ceremony was Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Head of the Diwan of Ruler of Dubai.

The ceremony was also attended by ministers and officials from the Sultanate of Oman and United Arab Emirates and invitees.

Shabab Oman II vessel is anchored in Marina Dubai after visiting GCC ports as part of its 5th international voyage themed "Oman, Renewed Approach." - **ONA**



WELCOME CEREMONY: The welcome ceremony for the vessel was organised by the Commission General of Oman Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai. - **ONA**

Khoula Hospital doctor hails fight against COVID

In keeping with our Ministry of Health guidelines, we attacked the disease very well, and provided the best management we could for such cases, said Dr Adil Al Kharousi



GREAT CARE: Dr Adil Al Kharousi, head of Intensive Care Department and the director general of Khoula Hospital.

patients alive during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I won't say it is easy, but we do it each time we are required to, and our skills are tested and improve each time we have new medical cases with new complications," he said. "We try our best to make rules to provide a certain standard of management for people in our care.

"The COVID-19 pandemic - as we understand - is a new virus that affected the whole world. In keeping with our Ministry of Health guidelines, we attacked the disease very well, and we provided the best management we could for such cases," he added.

"We worked very hard, from the side of the experts, the doctors, the nurses, from the sides of

the paramedics as well, and even from those involved in rehabilitation, such as physiotherapists, because COVID patients require a long time to mend.

"Even nutrition has a part to play in such cases," Al Kharousi went on to add. "I am glad that we were able to look after them very well, and this shows that we can deal with such situations here in future as well. Working in an intensive care unit (ICU) is of course challenging, and needs a lot of efforts, skills, knowledge, and finally, teamwork.

"You cannot do the work that gets done there without the help of others, so each person in our intensive care department has a role, and we work together to provide the best service for patients in our ICU."

"Our hospital has the largest ICU in the Sultanate of Oman, and it is definitely challenging for me to head this department, but I am supported by colleagues," he went on to say.

"To provide a good working environment, and a good standard of outcomes to patients, required good cooperation, knowledge, and skill from every expert involved."

RELATIONS

Omani-Qatari ties based on solid grounds: Envoy



MUSCAT: Najeeb Yahya Al Balushi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the State of Qatar, has said that relations between Omani and Qatari people stem from solid grounds of deep-rooted history and that these relations continue to grow stronger, thanks to the wise directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and Sheikh Tamim Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar.

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Al Balushi said that Omani-Qatari relations constitute a model of cooperation among brethren due to the keenness of the two countries' leader-

ships to develop cooperation and partnership for the mutual benefit of both sides.

Al Balushi added that, "This benign state visit comes in response to a generous invitation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik from Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of Qatar."

Al Balushi pointed out that the visit will cover different areas of cooperation and ways to develop them in a manner that responds to the two countries' peoples' aspirations for further progress and prosperity. It will be an opportunity to exchange views about many issues of common interest. - **ONA**

Trending ON SOCIAL MEDIA

BOOK MOST READ ON FACEBOOK

32,772 REACH

Oman

1d · Q

US Vice President Kamala Harris became the first woman with presidential power in America on Friday.



Indian origin Kamala Harris became first woman to get presidential power in US

A story on US VP Kamala Harris reached 32,772 people and had 1,970 engagements on Facebook.

VIDEO MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

976 VIEWS



Muscat Municipality opens Al Ansab-Al Jifnain Road



The Maghrib Minute video

The Maghrib Minute video had 976 views and reached 6,400 people on Facebook

VIDEO MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

420 VIEWS



The Morning Minute video

The Morning Minute video had 420 views and 33 likes on Instagram.

SHURA COUNCIL

FROM A1 Council to hold fourth regular session

Third regular session

The discussions on draft budget were held during the Shura Council's third regular session of the third annual session (2021-2022) of the ninth period (2019-2023), held under the chairmanship of Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, Chairman of the Shura Council, in the presence of Sheikh Ahmed bin Muhammad Al Nadabi, Secretary-General of the Shura Council, and the members of the Majlis Al Shura.

Regular session

It should be noted that the Council will hold its fourth regular session on Monday, for the third annual session of the ninth period (2019-2023), and it will be devoted to discussing the report of the Economic and Financial Committee of the Council on the draft state general budget for the fiscal year 2022, in addition to discussing a number of reports related to the work of the permanent committees.

With inputs from ONA



SCALE MOUNTAINS

FROM A1 Knowing local weather conditions and equipment part of preparations

As it is in any field, learning and knowledge are paramount for mountaineers, so that climbers can rely on themselves to take critical decisions at high altitude and during challenging circumstances. The technical skills required to scale mountains are of utmost importance, as is dedication towards continuously updating and improving oneself.

"Commitment to safety procedures is very necessary because this sport is always accompanied by risks," she revealed.

"Good preparation for each trip, regardless of its place or time, and no matter how confident and experienced the climber may be, is very necessary. Preparation also includes knowing local weather conditions, and what equipment to bring. The sense of responsibility towards safety and security must remain at all times with any adventurer."

Nadhirah Al Harthy's inspiration to become a mountaineer stemmed from the late Khalid Al Siyabi, the first Omani man to climb Mt. Everest, whom she



met during a chance encounter in 2017. After hearing of his story, she was instilled with a deep desire to climb the mountain herself...it was her first brush with mountain climbing.

Through voracious reading, constant learning, and continuous

training, she trained herself physically and mentally to go boldly where few have gone, and fewer still have returned.

She remains firm that it was her desire to scale the Everest that drew her to becoming a mountaineer.

"The first summit I climbed was

indeed the Everest," added Al Harthy. "I tried before to scale Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania in 2015, as part of a scientific research trip taken with some students, and in 2018, I attempted to summit Ama Dablam for the first time, as part of my training. I could not, however, reach these summits."

"My success on scaling Everest remains my most cherished memory," she added. "When I reached the peak, I understood what it meant to finally realise a dream, and how it was made possible, due to hard work, desire, and self-belief. I was finally able to savour a happiness like no other after two years of harsh training, during which time I had to make many difficult decisions. The Everest expedition took two months, because high-altitude locations take time to acclimatise to, because the body needs to first get used to the conditions. This process of adaptation is extremely important, as if you don't you could suffer from various health problems brought about by high altitude affecting most bodily functions."



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making life easy

Residents share their feelings of joy on Oman’s 51st National Day

Welcome and wanted in Oman, expats from different countries and backgrounds share their happiness on the National Day

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Residents of the Sultanate of Oman expressed their happiness in being part of the joy of the glorious 51st National Day. “I have never felt like a stranger in the Sultanate of Oman - rather, I feel as if I am one of the sons of this country. Everyone treats me as one of them with respect, love and pleasure. Oman is a safe and secure country, and its people are very kind,” Saleem, a resident from People’s Republic of Bangladesh said.



Saleem, an expat from Bangladesh



Husnain, an expat from Pakistan



The Sultanate of Oman celebrated the glorious 51st National Day on November 18. - *Taleb al Wahibi*

Sultanate of Oman and celebrate with my Omani brothers and sisters on the occasion of the 51st National Day. I feel as if I am celebrating the national holidays of my country. I participated in offering cakes and sweets to my colleagues at work and the area in which I live. Oman is a very wonderful country,” she affirmed. Husnain from the Islamic Republic of Pakistan said, “I participated in the celebrations of the 51st National Day through car marches. I was really happy with my participation. I went out with a group of my Omani friends as we raised the flag of the Sultanate and chanted patriotic slogans with joy on this occasion.” “I came to the Sultanate of Oman at the age of 25 and I am now 43. I lived here for all these years with love and respect from Omanis until I felt that there was no difference between us at all. I felt that they are really my family. They are very kind, respect me and invite me on their occasions and joys. As I share their sorrows and sympathy with them, the Omanis are a very good people and I do not praise them but tell the truth about them. Thank you for your hospitality during all these years.”

TOURISM

Anat cafe adds to attraction of key Nizwa heritage site



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Nizwa has a long history and it is one of the most beautiful wilayats in the Sultanate of Oman, and it was named the capital of Islamic culture by UNESCO in 2015. Haret Al-Aqr is one of the most prominent historical places in the wilayat, through which the Omani youth seek to turn it into a tourist area stemming from the ancient Omani heritage. One of these efforts is Anat Café which is one of the projects developed in Haret Al-Aqr, which is located inside the oldest archaeological gate in Haret Al-Aqr; Bab Sabah Abi Moather, whose age is estimated to be more than 1,200 years. Speaking exclusively to the *Times of Oman*, Suleiman Al-Sulaimani, the owner of one of projects at Nizwa Suq, “The idea of the project in Al-Aqr neighbourhood was with the heritage inn projects, which is to use the old houses in the neighborhood to restore them as a whole and to be a tourist-equipped neighborhood. New and innovative ideas of projects that attracts and serves the tourist or the guest, and the idea of the café came within one of the services required by the tourist,



which must be present.” “We started the project by preparing Souq al-Aqr, restoring the door, which is about more than 1,200 years old, in addition to a room that was used to grind millstones directly adjacent to the site. The opening of an Anat Café by human resources capable of preparing coffee from Omani youth, and the opening was a month ago, and it achieved great popularity and wide fame,” he added. Concerning the challenges fac-

ing Anat Café, Al-Sulaimani said, “Given that the location of the café is in this ancient historical place, we must inform the tourist of its location and sense the greatness of the place in which it is located, which is an opportunity to introduce the tourist to the Haret Al-Aqr and its history. It is not possible to make any additions it does not fit with this place and the need to preserve its heritage character, the second challenge is the lack of space for parking close to the cafe, but the challenge was dealt with that the tourists come walking to the cafe, and given the aesthetic of the place, it is worth taking a walking tour.” What distinguishes the café is the difference in the place to drink coffee, with its picturesque nature and the aesthetics of the mud walls that make you feel relaxed and calm, and these are requirements for drinking coffee. The message of Cafe Anat is in defining the history of Nizwa and the Haret Al-Aqr, precisely because Nizwa has become one of the most frequented wilayats for tourists from different countries of the world, and the Inat Cafe gives the tourist the opportunity to get the knowledge about Al-Aqr by drinking one of the most delicious types of coffee.

SORCIÈRE

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MEETING

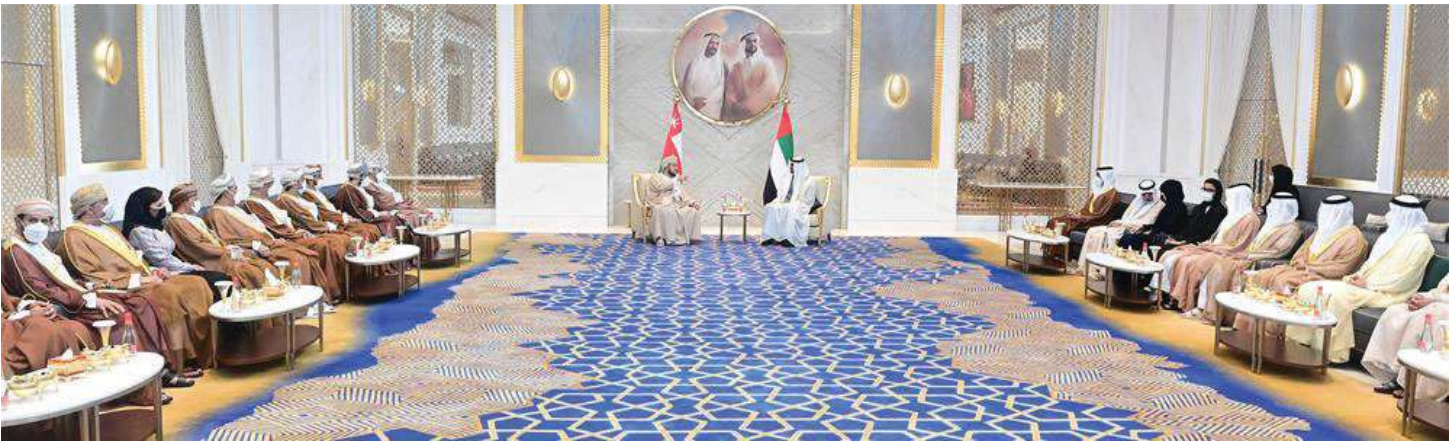
Sayyid Asa’ad meets Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi

DUBAI: His Highness Sayyid Asa’ad bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan today met with Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of Armed Forces of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) at the Leadership Pavilion in Expo 2020 Dubai.

The two sides reviewed the relations between the Sultanate of Oman and UAE, as well as aspects of the existing cooperation in sev-

eral fields to serve the joint interests of the two brotherly countries and people.

The meeting was attended by Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs in UAE, Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, Commissioner General of Expo 2020 Dubai, Reem Ebrahim Al Hashimi, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director General of Expo 2020 Dubai and the official delegation accompanying HH Sayyid Asa’ad. -ONA



DUBAI

<FROM

A1 Oman’s pavilion takes visitors on an inspirational trip



Through its participation in this major global event, the Sultanate of Oman presents to the visitors of Oman’s pavilion the aspirations of government institutions and private establishments, their innovations and the contributions of Omani Youth, deemed the mainstay of the nation’s future.

Al Yousef pointed out that the Omani pavilion embodied the talents of youth, who constitute 100 per cent workforce in the management and development of the pavilion’s content.

Oman’s pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai takes its visitors into an inspirational journey that reflects interaction of minds across the ages. It narrates modern Oman’s decades-old experience—laying emphasis on true opportunities—and its bright future within the context of Oman Vision 2040.

On his turn, Sheikh Nahyan Mubarak Al Nahyan, United Arab Emirates’ Minister of Tolerance and Coexistence, said, “Today we, at Expo 2020 Dubai, celebrate the Sultanate of Oman’s National Day”. He expressed his best wishes for His Majesty the Sultan, congratulated the government and wished Omani people further progress and prosperity.

A military band (comprising the Royal Guards of Oman and the Royal Cavalry) put up an impressive musical performance that appealed to a large segment of visitors.

Then, HH Sayyid Asa’ad and his accompanying delegation went on tour of the Omani Pavilion and viewed its contents, which highlight four main themes: Sustainability, Youth Care, Communica-

tion and Knowledge. It showcases various aspects of domestic development in Oman and the country’s Renewed Renaissance and future visions.

HH Sayyid Asaad listened to a briefing about the three main sections of the pavilion, which are “The Frankincense Tree” (ground floor), “Sustainability” and “The Harvest” (first floor) and “The Future” (second floor).

HH Sayyid Asaad later visited the UAE pavilion and was received, along with his delegation, by Sheikh Hamdan Mohamed Rashid Al Maktoum, Heir Apparent of Dubai (Chairman of the UAE Executive Council) and Sheikh Ahmed Said Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Aviation Authority (Chairman of Dubai Expo 2020 Supreme Committee). The pavilion offers an overview about the UAE’s growth and exhibits reflecting the country’s culture and achievements.

On the sidelines of the ceremony, various popular shows were held, along with a military music show in the corridors of the pavilion.

Meanwhile, Sayyid Dr. Ahmed Hilal Al Busaidi, Ambassador of Sultanate of Oman to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said in a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), “Undoubtedly, delegating HH Sayyid Asa’ad bin Tarik al-Said, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation Affairs, Personal Representative of His Majesty the Sultan and the high-level accompanying delegation by His Majesty the Sultan, reflects the sincere appreciation and atten-



tion accorded by the Sultanate of Oman and its wise leadership to the sisterly United Arab Emirates, its leadership and people, and to Expo 2020 which is being held for the first time in the Middle East in Dubai”.

The Sultanate of Oman seeks to achieve successful and distinguished participation at Expo 2020 Dubai by shedding light on its civilized and cultural heritage and its bright future, the ambassador added.

He pointed out that Oman’s participation at Expo 2020 Dubai comes in line with the themes

presented at this global event and is consistent with Oman’s visions and aspirations.

The ambassador further said that through this participation, the Sultanate of Oman aims to highlight its geography, history and civilization, as well as the developmental achievements accomplished in various fields.

He added that many activities will be organized on the sidelines of the Expo, namely the Omani Products Exhibition, Small and Medium Enterprises Exhibition and Oman Investment Week. -ONA



EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS LATE SAYYID TARIK CONTRIBUTIONS

Oman Post opened an exhibition that highlights contributions of the late His Highness Sayyid Tarik bin Taimour Al Said. The exhibition held at the Opera Galleria of the Royal Opera House Muscat (ROHM) aims to familiarise the visitors with the role of Sayyid Tarik in serving the Sultanate of Oman. — ONA



CONFERENCE

Call to raise awareness to reduce disease

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health, represented by Al Nahdha Hospital, organised a conference on Nutrition and Cancer Diseases. The event, held at the Kempinski Hotel, Muscat yesterday, was organised under the auspices of Dr. Hilal Al Sabti, Executive President of Oman Medical Specialty Board (OMSB).

Dr. Eiman Al Hinai, Head of Clinical Dietary Department at Al Nahdha Hospital said that in 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) recorded 18.1 million new cases of cancer worldwide.

Cancer cases

She added that WHO expects the number to reach between 29 and 37 million cases by 2040, and that cancer cases will increase by 81 percent by 2040 in low- and middle-income countries due to insufficient resources for prevention. The conference aimed at exchanging knowledge and expertise

with oncologists specialising in oncology-adapted nutrition. It also reviewed recommendations on nutrition and cancer diseases. The conference sought to raise dietary awareness in Oman to reduce the incidences of these diseases.

The event spotlighted the role of nutrition in colorectal cancer in Oman, methods of prevention and treatment of children and adults with cancer. The conference shed light on the ideal therapeutic nutrition for the

treatment of such cancers according to age, gender and other health-related factors. Some cases that have recovered from cancer in the Sultanate of Oman have also been highlighted.

-ONA





MEETING: The event was held at the Kempinski Hotel, Muscat yesterday, was organised under the auspices of Dr. Hilal Al Sabti, Executive President of Oman Medical Specialty Board. - ONA

MEETING

Al Za'abi leaves for Saudi Arabia



MUSCAT: Dr. Mohammed Nasser Al Za'abi, Secretary General at the Ministry of Defence left here yesterday heading to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) to take part in the 18th meeting of the GCC Joint Defence Council. The Secretary General is accompanied by Vice Admiral Abdullah Khamis Al Ra'eesi, Chief of Staff of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) and senior SAF officers. The Defence Secretary General was seen off at A'Seeb Air Base by Rear Admiral Saif Nasser Al Rahbi, Commander of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) and senior SAF officers. -ONA

FIRST SERVICE

Cancer care centre launches health data

MUSCAT: The Sultan Qaboos Comprehensive Cancer Care and Research Centre has launched a "Health Information System" for the management of medical and administrative data in health establishments. The system is the first service of its kind to be introduced in the Sultanate of Oman. Dr. Zahid Abdullah Al Manthri, Senior Consultant of Radiological Tumour Treatment and Chairman of Clinical data at the Centre, told Oman News Agency that the new system is a comprehensive service utilising artificial intelligence to offer quick and highly accurate information about patients. It covers e-medical reports, a documentation of analyses and a schedule of appointments in coordination with the sections concerned.

-ONA

CABLES

< FROM A1 Greetings

His Majesty received cables from Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei Darussalam, President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow of Turkmenistan, President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan, President Kersti Kaljulaid of Estonia, President Joe Biden of the United States of America, President Wavel Ramkalawan of Seychelles, President Thongloun Sisoulith of the Laos People's Democratic Republic, President Gitanas Nausėda of the Republic of Lithuania, President Nguyen Xuan Phuc of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, President Uhuru Kenyatta of the Republic of Kenya, President Bidhya Devi Bhandari of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, President Ram Nath Kovind of the Republic of India and Pham Minh Chinh, Prime Minister of Vietnam. In their cables, they wished His Majesty good health, happiness and a long life. They also wished the Omani people further development and growth under His Majesty's wise leadership. -ONA

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Post Graduate Teachers (PGT) – and HOD for all subjects	• Post Graduate with B. Ed. • Minimum 3 years of handling Higher Secondary Classes in any curriculum.
Hindi & Tamil Language Teachers	• Native speakers with B. Ed and Hindi/Tamil as one of the main subjects in Masters or Graduation. • Minimum of 5 years of work experience is a must.
Swimming Coach Dance Teacher Music Teacher	• Swimming Coach (Only Female) with relevant qualification and experience in coaching School children. • Dance and Music Teachers with a Diploma or Degree in the relevant fields Teaching experience in Schools will be preferred.
Computer Science Teacher	• B.E./B.Tech / MSc. Computer Science/ MCA. • Minimum 3 years of handling Higher Secondary Classes in any curriculum. • Knowledge of 3d printing, software, hardware and Networking will be preferred.

- The working experience with CBSE/ICSE /IGCSE/IB curriculum is preferred.
- Computer literate facilitators with certification shall only apply.
- Only candidates who have done a regular study shall apply. (No distance or part timers)
- Applicants who have applied in last one year shall not apply again.
- Interested applicants may email their latest CV and passport size photograph to career.teachers@isboman.com or admin.reshma@isboman.com (91461171) on or before 28th November 2021.

Team ISB is Expanding – Educate to Innovate.

Ministry of Higher Education, Research & Innovation

Re-issue the local tender electronically

The Internal Tenders Committee of the Ministry of Higher Education Research & Innovation announced the following tenders:

Tender No.	Tender Name	Company that are entitled to participate	Tender Price	Last Date for purchasing Tender	The deadline for submission of tenders
11 /2021 Recall (1)	Data Center Maintenances Contract MOHER & Head Quarter	Specialized in providing Same service and registered with the Tender Board with Grade: Excellent, First - Second - Third - Fourth	(25/= R.O) Twenty five Omani Rial Only	1/12/2021	11/12/2021

The purchasing of the tender documents by E-Tendering system will starting on Monday 22/ 11/2021; at 07:30 am. To purchasing, please visit the following link:
<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om/>

All companies that are bidding must provide a bank guarantee or a certified cheque from a bank operating in the Sultanate for at least (1%) of the tender value on behalf of His Excellency Dr. / Chairman of the Internal Tender Committee.

Preference will be given to companies' or small and medium enterprises registered with the General Authority for the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) that includes the largest proportion of its tender Omanization.

Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest or any other tender.

Chairman of tender committee
Ministry of Higher Education Research & Innovation

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COVID curbs spark protests worldwide

Austria on Friday announced a nationwide partial lockdown — the most dramatic restrictions in Western Europe for months

MILAN: Thousands took to the streets across Europe and Australia on Saturday to protest fresh rounds of COVID restrictions.

Several countries have recently reintroduced tighter measures in a bid to combat a resurgent wave of infections.

Austria on Friday announced a nationwide partial lockdown — the most dramatic restrictions in Western Europe for months.

Other nations on the continent have resorted to less severe restrictions, often choosing to ban unvaccinated people from venues like restaurants and bars.

The Netherlands

In the Netherlands, rioters threw stones and fireworks at police, and set fire to bicycles as protests against coronavirus curbs turned violent for a second night in the country.

Police reported that five officers had been injured in violent confrontations and were receiving treatment in hospital.

At least 40 people were detained across three provinces.

A day earlier, at least two people were injured after police fired shots at protesters and 51 were



COVID RESTRICTIONS: Other nations in Europe have resorted to less severe restrictions, often choosing to ban unvaccinated people from venues like restaurants and bars.

arrested at an anti-coronavirus restrictions demonstration in the city of Rotterdam.

Earlier on Saturday, several thousand protesters angered at the latest measures gathered in Amsterdam, although another group had canceled their rally because of the previous night's violence.

In the southern city of Breda, near the Belgian border, a musical protest called by local DJs against current COVID-19 measures, which include the 8 p.m. (1900 UTC) closure of bars, restaurants and clubs, attracted a few hundred people. The Netherlands went back into Western Europe's first partial lockdown of the winter last Saturday with at least three weeks of curbs. It is now planning to ban unvaccinated people from entering some venues.

Austria

Around 35,000 protesters, many from far-right groups, marched through the Austrian

capital Vienna on Saturday.

Among those protesting were members of far-right and extreme-right parties and groups, including the far-right Freedom Party, the anti-vaccine MFG party and the extreme-right Identitarians.

Police said around 1,300 officers were on duty and several protesters were detained, but didn't give specific numbers.

From Monday, 8.9 million Austrians will not be allowed to leave home except to go to work, shop for essentials and exercise. The restrictions will initially last 20 days with an evaluation after 10 days.

The government is making vaccination against COVID-19 mandatory in the country from February 1 next year.

Northern Ireland

In Northern Ireland, several hundred people opposed to vaccine passports protested outside the city hall in Belfast.

The government of Northern

Ireland voted this week to introduce vaccine certificates for admission to nightclubs, bars and restaurants starting December 13.

Some protesters carried signs that have been widely criticized as offensive, comparing coronavirus restrictions to the actions of Nazi Germany.

Croatia

In Croatia, thousands gathered in the capital of Zagreb. Some carried flags, nationalist and religious symbols, along with banners against vaccination and what they describe as restrictions of people's freedoms.

Italy

In Italy, 3,000 turned out in the capital's Circus Maximus to protest against "Green Pass" certificates, required at workplaces, restaurants, cinemas, theaters, sports venues and gyms, as well as for long-distance train, bus or ferry travel. **aw**



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FAMINE RISK

Catastrophic and famine-like conditions hang over Afghanistan: UN

KABUL: The UN humanitarian have warned that "Catastrophic and famine-like conditions" hang over Afghanistan's farmers and herders whose needs continue to worsen with the onset of winter.

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) explained that humanitarian access has never been better, prices are soaring and the needs of Afghans continue to outpace the resources. "The situation is disastrous. Every farmer we've spoken to has lost almost all of their crops this year, many were forced to sell their livestock, they have accumulated enormous debts and simply have no money," said Richard Trenchard, FAO Representative in Afghanistan.

"No farmer wants to leave their land. But when you have no food, you have no grain from the previous harvest, there are no seeds in the fields and your livestock are gone, you have no choice."

According to the UN agency, 18.8 million Afghans are unable to feed themselves every day, and that this number is set to rise to nearly 23 million by the end of the year.

The UN News reported that nine in 10 major urban centres



are expected to face extreme hardship, as debts pile up and savings dwindle.

The FAO warned that this situation will create a very real famine risk in 2022, unless immediate large-scale support to protect these people and their livelihoods arrive very soon.

"What's needed now obviously is to get them seeds, get them fertiliser and food assistance that the World Food Programme is providing...but also, it's cash," Trenchard insisted.

The situation is dire because agriculture is the backbone of Afghan livelihoods and critical for Afghanistan's economy. According to FAO, around 70 per cent of Afghans live in rural areas and an estimated 80 per cent of all livelihoods depend on farming or herding. **ANI**



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Sudan’s military signs deal to reinstate ousted PM Hamdok

Hamdok will form an independent cabinet of technocrats and all political detainees will be released



KHARTOUM: Sudan's ousted Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has been reinstated after signing an agreement with General Abdel Fattah Burhan on Sunday afternoon. A news agency has reported that the 14 point deal was signed in the

presidential palace in Khartoum. As part of the deal, Hamdok will form an independent cabinet of technocrats and all political detainees will be released. A group of mediators, including academics, journalists and

politicians, had been attempting to reach a deal since the political crisis erupted following a military coup. It was finally reached late on Saturday, nearly a month after General Abdel-Fattah Burhan took down the transitional government

led by Prime Minister Hamdok and detained its leaders. The general had previously deposed autocrat Omar al-Bashir in 2019.

Hamdok freed from house arrest

Earlier on Sunday Hamdok was freed from house arrest after a member of his office gave confirmation to news agency AFP. Hamdok has been under armed guard since the Burhan's declared state of emergency in October. "The house arrest of Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has been lifted and the forces guarding his house have been withdrawn," the official is reported to have told AFP. Since the news of the deal to reinstate Hamdok, witnesses have reported seeing protesters again rallying against the military in

downtown Khartoum, in the state of Kassala and the city of Atbara. Reuters news agency meanwhile reported that according to a witness, thousands have marched towards the presidential palace in Khartoum ahead of the meeting with Burhan and Hamdok.

What does the deal include?

Under the agreement, all detainees will be released and Hamdok's position as prime minister will be restored. It will also allow for the resumption of the constitutional, legal and political consensus that governs the transitional period. The deal was reached after weeks of talks that included political factions, former rebel groups as well as military figures. Burhan has referred to the military takeover as a step "to rectify the transition." However, follow-

ing the coup, the military tightened its grip on power, appointing a new military-run Sovereign Council, chaired by Burhan. The council also included a par-amilitary commander, three senior military figures, three ex-rebel leaders and one civilian.

Large-scale opposition to coup

The coup was slammed widely, both inside the country and internationally. Security forces confronted tens of thousands of protesters who took to the streets in the capital Khartoum and Sudan's most populous city Omdurman. Earlier this month, UN human rights chief Michelle Bachelet called on the military leaders to "step back in order to allow the country to return to the path of progress" after the coup on October 25. -*rw*

FIRST CASE

New report claims first known COVID case was Wuhan market vendor



WASHINGTON: A new report has claimed that a female vendor at the Huanan Market in the Chinese city of Wuhan was the first known case of COVID-19 instead of a male accountant who lived several miles away from the market. Hitherto, the earliest known case of COVID-19 has been attributed to a 41-year-old male accountant who lived nearly 30 km south of Huanan Market. The latest report, which refutes this claim, has been published in the journal Science by Michael Worobey, head of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Arizona. The report states that a female seafood vendor who worked at the live animal market in Wuhan and became ill on December 11, 2019, was likely the first known case of COVID-19. However, Worobey noted that the illness the man reportedly experienced on December 8 was likely due to dental problems he had retained into adulthood and his actual COVID-19 symptoms began on December 16. "Crucially, however, the now famous 'earliest' COVID-19 case, a 41-year-old male accountant, who lived 30 km south of Huanan Market and had no connection to it--illness onset reported as 8 December--appears to have become ill with COVID-19 considerably later," the scientist said. "When interviewed, he reported that his COVID-19 symptoms started with a fever on 16 December; the

8 December illness was a dental problem related to baby teeth retained into adulthood." According to Worobey, this indicates that he was infected through community transmission after the virus had begun spreading from Huanan Market. "He (Chinese man) believed that he may have been infected in a hospital (presumably during his dental emergency) or on the subway during his commute; he had also traveled north of Huanan Market shortly before his symptoms began. His symptom onset came after multiple cases in workers at Huanan Market, making a female seafood vendor there the earliest known case, with illness onset December 11," he said. The writer also cited reports that looked into the first known infections at the Wuhan South China Seafood Wholesale Market and posited that the vendor's case predated the accountant's. Notably, the female vendor reported knowledge of several possible COVID-19 cases in clinics and hospitals that were near Huanan Market from December 11, and Huanan Market patients were hospitalized at Union Hospital as early as December 10. Several experts including a WHO-appointed investigator endorsed Worobey's arguments. However, some said that the evidence he presented was still not sufficient enough to definitively say how the outbreak began, The New York Times reported. *ANI*

COVID CASES

UK records another 40,941 new coronavirus cases

LONDON: Britain registered 40,941 new COVID-19 infections, bringing the total number of coronavirus cases in the country to 9,806,034, according to official figures released on Saturday. The country also reported a further 150 coronavirus-related deaths. The total number of coronavirus-related deaths in Britain now stands at 143,866, with 8,079 COVID-19 patients still in hospital. The soaring cases in Europe underlined "how quickly things can go wrong," said John

Edmunds, a member of the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE). On Thursday, the UK Health Security Agency (HSA) released data showing a spike in COVID cases among school children in England, likely to reflect pupils returning to school after half-term. More than 88 percent of people aged 12 and over in Britain have had their first dose of vaccine and more than 80 percent have received both doses, the latest figures indicate. *ANI*

MOHAMMED RIAZ & PARTNERS GROUP ORGANIZED 51ST OMAN NATIONAL DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT AT GHALA GOLF CLUB



Cake Cutting with Mr. Faiz Mohammed Riaz - Managing Director of Mohammed Riaz & Partner Group, Board Director of Ghala Golf along with Mr. Ziyad Al Zubair - Vice Chairman Ghala Golf Club & Mr. Khalil Al Wahaibi - General Manager Ghala Golf Club

On the auspicious day of 18th November, the 51st National Day of the Sultanate of Oman, a day when the country revels in its nationalism with dazzling displays of Red, Green & White, representing the National Flag showcased all over Oman in its entirety from North to South. This day is extremely sacred and revered for it symbolizes all that is great in Oman. Mohammed Riaz & Partner Group was able to take part in the nationwide celebrations by sponsoring a golf tournament. Mohammed Riaz is one of the leading Building Materials Organizations here in the Sultanate of Oman specializing in Wood, Glass, Hardware, Steel, Aluminum and has since diversified into retail with the widely popular Home Mart International chain of malls, Supermarkets (Salam Fresh), FMCG Distribution, 3PL Logistics, ACP Factory, Bottled Drinking Water Plant (Sarooj Water). Mohammed Riaz & Partners' 1st tournament was attended by a record number of ambassadors

and dignitaries in 2016. The golf tournament sponsored by Mohammed Riaz is the brainchild of its managing director Faiz Mohammed Riaz who himself a passionate golfer and Oman's National team player is looking at ways in which to grow the game of golf. The Chairman of Mohammed Riaz & Partners also believes that contributing to sports events, especially golf events is the building of individual decision making and likewise leaders. He is a strong believer that golf teaches us individual leadership, how to make decisions under pressure and its contribution is a very healthy aspect. On top of that the aim of these events is to contribute to society through the medium of golf. The event started in the early morning with golfers starting at 6:30 am in the morning. The afternoon tee time started at 12:00 pm, where there was a turnout of 83 golfers that took advantage of the excellent change in weather and signifying the onset

of the cooler months. As usual, the evening ended with a wonderful prize giving and presentation. Finally, the 18th November tournament sponsored by Mohammed Riaz is a celebration of the success of His Majesty in making Oman a nation that in spite of its modernization is sustainable, and is a home away from home for its millions of expatriates living in the Sultanate of Oman. It is with this in mind that the 18th November Golf Tournament is a celebration in praying to the Almighty Allah to safeguard His Majesty and grant him good health and long life as well as wishing everyone in Oman everlasting happiness. **Winner: William Acebedo**
1st Runner Up: Gurpreet Singh
2nd Runner Up: Kaiser James Acebedo
Ladies: Jacky Franssen
Junior: Yousuf Al Rumhy
Nearest to the Pin: Paul Adamson
2nd Best Shot: Hamood Al Harthy

Podium finish a tribute to mother, says Shonal

The Indian School Ghubra fifth grade student has been making a name on the regional go-karting circuit

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Two years since his Palestinian mother passed away in a tragic accident in Al Hamra, ten-year-old Shonal Kunimal had a burning desire to excel at the MENA Karting Nations Cup while representing his mother's nation.

And on Saturday, Shonal fulfilled his dream as he stood on the podium, representing Palestine, in the 2021 MENA Karting Nations Cup at the Muscat Speedway of the Oman Automobile Association.

Shonal claimed the third place in Micro Max category at the championship, which featured a total of 19 countries including Oman and was organised by the Oman Automobile Association (OAA).

The Indian School Ghubra fifth grade student with an Indian father had been making a name on the regional go-karting circuit, winning consistently at the Rotax Max Challenge Series over the past few years. COVID-19 and the demise of his mother had forced him to miss the full nearly two seasons but since returning to the tracks in October, Shonal has been making podium finishes a habit.



GO-KARTING: COVID-19 and the demise of his mother had forced him to miss nearly two seasons but since returning to the tracks in October, Shonal has been making podium finishes a habit.

On Saturday, amid a strong field of ten drivers, Shonal took third place in the final race in Micro Max category behind Philippe El Hajj of Lebanon while UAE's Russian driver Maxim Bobreshov took the top honours.

Speaking after his third-place finish, Shonal said, "This is for my mother [Nabrees Qandeel], who for years saw me grow here on this tracks. She was my biggest support before she left us. She would be the happiest person and I know she is always with me."

"My dad [Shojai Kunimal], coach Sanad Al Rawahi, along with my technical assistants - Leonardo Abalos and Raven Abalos - have been instrumental in my success. I hope to continue my winning run and my goal will be to claim race wins that has eluded me in recent times. With more participation,

I am confident that I can clinch victories in the New Year and the season ahead."

Shonal's mentor and dad Shojai thanked Oman's rallying star Hamed Al Wahaibi and OAA managing director Suleiman Al Rawahi for their strong support.

It was heartening news for Palestine team who had arrived with three other drivers. Shonal's podium was a first for Palestine team in the MENA Karting Nations Cup and the young driver was personally congratulated by Palestine Ambassador's to Oman, Tayseer al Farhat at the awards ceremony.

The presentation ceremony was held under the patronage of Sayyid Saud bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of State and Governor of Muscat. Also present was Mohammed bin Sulayem, world motorsports governing body (FIA) vice-president and Brig (ret'd) Salim al Maskari, OAA chairman.

The five-day MENA Karting Nations Cup witnessed 127 drivers and the OAA hosted the event for the second time in succession.

Besides Oman, the other countries that competed were Libya, Lebanon, Cyprus, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Yemen, Syria, Egypt, Algeria, Jordan, Syria, Tunisia, Palestine, Morocco and Turkey. Events were held in eight categories including six classes in MENA Rotax Max Challenge (RMC), MENA Elite Endurance (Round One), MENA Elite Sprint 2 (Round One) classes.

UAE dethroned Oman for overall title while the hosts came second and Lebanon took the overall third place.

MANCHESTER UNITED



Manchester United sack manager Ole Solskjaer

MANCHESTER: Manchester United on Sunday announced that Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has left his role as manager.

This decision comes after Manchester United suffered a 1-4 defeat at the hands of Watford in the Premier League on Saturday. "Ole will always be a legend at Manchester United and it is with regret that we have reached this difficult decision. While the past few weeks have been disappointing, they should not obscure all the work he has done over the past three years to rebuild the foundations for long-term success," said United in an official statement.

"Ole leaves with our sincer-

est thanks for his tireless efforts as Manager and our very best wishes for the future. His place in the club's history will always be secure, not just for his story as a player, but as a great man and a Manager who gave us many great moments. He will forever be welcome back at Old Trafford as part of the Manchester United family," it added.

Michael Carrick will now take charge of the team for forthcoming games, while the club looks to appoint an interim manager to the end of the season.

Manchester United is currently at the seventh position in the Premier League standings with 17 points from 12 games. **ANI**

QATAR GRAND PRIX

Max Verstappen hit with five-place grid penalty

DOHA: Red Bull Racing driver Max Verstappen has been hit with a five-place grid penalty for the Qatar Grand Prix after the stewards found he failed to slow for double waved yellow flags during qualifying.

At the very end of the final segment of qualifying on Saturday, Pierre Gasly ran wide at Turn 15 and dislodged his front wing, which also caused him to puncture his front right tyre.

As he slowed his stricken Alpha-Tauri on the pit straight the yellow flags were flown.

Meanwhile, Verstappen was on his final flying run as he tried to overhaul title rival Lewis Hamilton who held provisional pole position at the time.

"Verstappen crossed the line and improved his time by around two-tenths of a second, but it was not enough to dislodge Hamilton



from pole, with the Dutchman remaining in P2.

But some three hours after qualifying, Verstappen was issued a summons from the stewards for allegedly "not respecting double waved yellow flags", and he went to see them in Qatar on Sunday.

And with just hours to go before the start of the race, the stewards handed Verstappen a five-place grid drop and two penalty points - despite having "sympathy" with the Dutchman because of the "lack of display of the yellow light panels, no dash warning lights and no audio signal to the driver" to warn him of the issue.

Their statement said: "notwithstanding the fact the team argued that the turning off of the yellow sector on the FIA marshalling system some 34 seconds prior to the driver reaching the yellow flag,

signified that it was 'play on', it was the driver's responsibility to take the appropriate action when entering what was a double yellow flag area.

"The driver acknowledged his awareness of the presence of Car 10 on the right side of the track. Having seen a disabled car, it is reasonable to expect, as was the case of the driver of Car 55 [Carlos Sainz], that there was a potential danger and that a yellow flag situation probably existed and therefore to take the appropriate action (i.e. to reduce speed)."

Going into the race Verstappen - who was due to start P2 - has a 14-point lead over Hamilton, who starts the race from pole.

Valtteri Bottas has been handed a three-place grid penalty for failing to slow under single waved yellow flags. **ANI**

FIFA WORLD CUP 2022

Stadium 974 in Qatar declared 'ready' to host FIFA World Cup

DOHA: Qatar on Saturday unveiled the Stadium 974, the latest venue for the 2022 FIFA World Cup and the stadium will host its first match on November 30 when the UAE and Syria go head-to-head on the opening day of the Arab Cup.

According to Qatar 2022, the venue - formerly known as Ras Abu Aboud - is made primarily from shipping containers and is located close to Doha Port, directly opposite the spectacular West Bay skyline. The innovative design means this is the first fully demountable stadium in FIFA World Cup history. Stadium 974 is the seventh tournament venue to be completed by the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy (SC) and follows Khalifa International, Al Janoub, Education City, Ahmad Bin Ali, Al Bayt and Al Thumama in being declared ready to host matches during the FIFA World Cup 2022, which will kick off on November 21 next year.

"We are very proud to announce the completion of Stadium 974. This is yet another milestone on the road to 2022 as we edge closer to hosting the first FIFA World



Cup in the Middle East and Arab world," H.E. Hassan Al Thawadi, Secretary-General of the SC, said in a statement.

"We consider this innovative venue a game-changer for future mega-event hosts. It is another example of the powerful legacy our World Cup will leave," he added.

Stadium 974 will host seven matches up to the round of the 16th stage during Qatar 2022. During the FIFA Arab Cup, which will take place from November 30

to December 18, the 40,000-capacity stadium will host six matches, including the first semi-final and third-place play-off.

According to the organisers, the stadium's new name reflects the number of shipping containers used in the development and is also Qatar's international dialling code.

The name also reflects the stadium's location as the gateway to Qatar, being close to Hamad International Airport, Doha Airport and Hamad Port. **ANI**

MATCH UPDATE

Renaissance edge out Yalla Shabab by 16 runs in Premier Division thriller

MUSCAT: In a thrilling Premier Division match of the Oman Cricket League played over the weekend at Al Amerat Turf 1 ground, Renaissance edged out Yalla Shabab by 16 runs.

Put into bat after Yalla Shabab won the toss, Renaissance scored 239 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 50 overs. Asif Khan top scored with 57 off 42 balls, with two boundaries and five sixes.

Abdul Rauf Atta Ullah scored a cautious 55 off 83 balls while Mahmood Sufyan contributed a run-a-ball 53. Jitenkumar Ramandi and Wasim Ali each picked two wickets for Yalla Shabab.

In reply, Yalla Shabab top order failed to fire, with only Wasim Ali scoring a sedate 78 off 104 with six boundaries and one six. He was ably supported by Fawad Malook [30] and Jitenkumar Ramandi [37].

Bilal Muhammad took three wickets for 61 for Renaissance. Fawad Ali, Mahmood Sufyan and Asif Khan took two wickets each.

Brief Scores - Renaissance



239/6 in 50 Overs (Asif Khan 57 (42) 2x4, 5x6; Abdul Rauf Atta Ullah 55 (83) - 4x4, 3x6; Mahmood Sufyan 53 (53) 3x4, 3x6; Jitenkumar Ramandi 58/2; Wasim Ali 30/2) won against Yalla Shabab 233/10 in 48.1 Overs (Wasim Ali 78 (104) - 6x4, 1x6; Bilal Muhammad 61/3) by 16 Runs.

In another Division A match of the Oman Cricket League played on Saturday, LC Tech beat Ernst

& Young LLC by 5 wickets. LC Tech won the toss and put Ernst & Young to bat.

Only opener Issa Al Balushi fired for Ernst & Young, scoring 58 off 68 balls, with seven boundaries and three sixes. The other notable contribution came from Rana Zee-shan, who scored 47 runs. Rahul Ramachandran was the wrecker in chief, picking up six wickets for 25 runs.

NEC SIGNS AGREEMENT

The National Energy Center (NEC) started its collaboration with the French smart technology giant Sagemcom since 2011 to bring the technology to the Sultanate of Oman and commence the manufacturing locally in the country to align with Oman's Vision 2040. > B2

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4,065.60 points, up 0.04 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.05 per cent at 549.17 points. OIFC Bonds was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while SMN Power Holding, down 9.09 per cent, was the top loser.

First 'Made in Oman' bus rolls out from Karwa's Duqm factory

Karwa Motors is a joint venture between Mowasalat Qatar, the state-owned transport company of Qatar, and Oman Investment Authority



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Coinciding with the country's 51st National Day of the Renaissance celebrations, Karwa Motors, Oman's first bus brand with a manufacturing facility in the Duqm Special Economic Zone, has rolled out its first Karwa-branded bus proudly bearing the 'Made in the Sultanate of Oman' tag - named 'Salam'. The event also marks the start of manufacturing operations for the joint investment project between the Sultanate of Oman and the State of Qatar, which in its first phase aims to produce 500 buses annually.

Karwa Motors is a joint venture between Mowasalat Qatar, the state-owned transport company of Qatar, and Oman Investment Authority, Oman's sovereign wealth fund. This partnership is,

however, only one pearl in a string of economic ties between our two nations; ties that have been positively reflected in the wide range of successful cooperation projects over the years.

The first phase of operations at the Karwa Motors facility will focus on manufacturing buses for the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Doha next year. Due to its strategic location close to the regional market, the project is well-positioned to contribute to the success of this global event by reducing workloads, shipping times, and storage costs. Moreover, this step also reflects Qatar's vision of enhancing the contribution of neighbouring countries to the success of this global event.

Commenting on the roll out of the first-ever Karwa-branded bus, Hisham Ahmed Al Sheedi, the Acting Director of Economic Diver-

sification Investments said, "The Karwa facility represents one of the most important strategic projects between Oman and Qatar. The two countries continue to seek potential investment opportunities across several vital and promising sectors, underlining the strong ties between them and the shared interests that have been addressed regularly by both governments and people.

The Oman Investment Authority invests in such projects to not only support Oman's economic diversification efforts but also move us closer towards realising our vision of developing Oman's logistics sector and establishing Oman as an industrial hub for the region. Moreover, the project will also help us as a nation enhance our technical expertise in the automotive sector and develop supplementary industries that will



support its growth, including several new small and medium-sized businesses."

Commenting on the new facility, Dr Ibrahim Albalushi, Chief Executive Officer of Karwa Motors said, "Located on a 600,000 square metre site, the manufacturing facility is outfitted with the latest in technology. It also houses sev-

eral key sections, including a large warehouse to store raw materials, core workshops for cutting and welding, dyeing, and equipment and motor assembly, a full-fledged inspection yard and testing facility, and a vast number of other auxiliary facilities. Our factory will also create job opportunities for Omanis, whether they are regular job seekers or have experience in the automotive field.

"The first phase of ramp-up will be focused on producing the first of three Karwa-branded buses - 'Salam' - which will be used at the FIFA World Cup 2022. These buses are extremely advanced and can handle a variety of road conditions, as well as withstand the harshest weather conditions. Next year, we will introduce the Inter-city Coach and the City Bus with an annual production of 500 to 700 buses. Additionally, we have a

strategic partnership in place with Higer, one of the world's leading manufacturers of buses."

Through Karwa Motor's collaboration with leading global technology transfer partners, their new facility and buses will also see several innovations and industry-leading production practices and technologies make their way into Oman for the first time. As a result, the facility is poised to set a high standard for all future production facilities in the country. Through its buses, Karwa Motors will offer customers a wide array of options, providing a practical solution for a variety of public transportation tasks, be it for cross-city or urban transport. Furthermore, Karwa Motors, in cooperation with Oman Investment Authority, is currently exploring the possibility of manufacturing electric buses and vehicles.

RECENT VERSION



Google Messages may change how Android gets iMessage

WASHINGTON: According to a new report, Google Messages might be receiving an update that will slightly enhance the messaging experience on the Android end.

According to GSM Arena, code has been found in the most recent version of Google Messages that would show iMessage 'reactions' as emoji's within Google Messages.

If an iPhone user sends a message to a phone number that's on Android, the conversation will be carried on the SMS protocol since iOS doesn't support RCS and iMessage isn't supported on Android.

Currently, iMessage users can send 'reactions' to text messages, but if a reaction is sent to an Android user, the user receives a text message back that simply says "Liked 'I am doing great!'".

SMS messages

The report suggests that Google Messages would receive the SMS messages from the iPhone as normal, but would recognise when a reaction is being sent from iMessage and would apply an emoji reaction to the corresponding message.

String of text

Additionally, another string of text suggests that Google Messages may remind users of a contact's birthday.

Basically, if Messages sees that a contact's information contains a birthday, it would remind, perhaps with an animated banner, to "Wish them a Happy Birthday!" This could be displayed either within the conversation window or the conversation list, as per GSM Arena.

INVEST IN OMAN FORUM

OPAZ highlights investment opportunities in special economic zones and free zones

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Underlining the importance of the special economic zones and free zones as a key attraction for foreign investments to the Sultanate of Oman, the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) presented the investment opportunities available in these zones during the "Invest in Oman Forum".

This event was held as part of other activities, commemorating the Sultanate's celebration of the 51st National Day at Expo 2021 Dubai.

The forum, organised by the

Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, attracted potential businesspersons, interested corporates and international media. A number of government and private bodies took part in the Forum, including the OPAZ, Oman Global Logistics Group ASYAD, Public Establishment for Industrial Estates Ma-dayn and HSBC Bank.

Presentation delivered

During his presentation delivered in the forum, Yousuf Al Resi, from the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones, highlighted the package of advantages and incentives of the

special economic zones and free zones offered for investors. Further, he touched on the different investment opportunities available in various sectors, such as oil, petrochemicals, logistics, fisheries, tourism, mining and others.

Post the "Invest in Oman Forum", the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, arranged several meetings that brought together representatives of the participating entities, businesspersons and those interested to invest in the Sultanate of Oman. Various business opportunities have been brought to discussion between the officials and potential investors.





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MARKET

MSX index ends higher

OIFC Bonds was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while SMN Power Holding, down 9.09 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,065.60 points, up 0.04 per cent from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.05 per cent at 549.17 points. OIFC Bonds was the top gainer, up by 6.25 per cent, while SMN Power Holding, down 9.09 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Sohar International Bank were the most active in terms of number of shares traded while that of OMINVEST perpetual bonds were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 368 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR1.97 million, with more than 6.51 million shares changing hands. Out of 54 traded securities, 12 advanced, 19 declined and 23 remained unchanged. At the session close,

foreign investors were net sellers for OMR42,000 while domestic investors were net buyers for OMR34,000 followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR8,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index
Financial Index closed at 6,471.77 points, up 0.42 per cent. National Bank of Oman, Al Omaniya Financial Services, Vision Insurance, HSBC Bank Oman, and Al Madina Takaful were up by 2.65 per cent, 1.69 per cent, 1.14 per cent, 1.09 per cent, and 1.04 per cent respectively. United Finance, Muscat Finance, Oman & Emirates Investment Holding, Al Anwar Investment, and Sohar International Bank were down 1.82 per cent, 1.72 per cent, 1.43 per cent, 1.03 per cent, and 0.93 per cent respectively. — **United Securities**

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES							
Index.....	High	Low	Value	Prev . Value.....	Diff	Diff%	
MSX 30 INDEX	4,079.71	4,061.82	4,065.60	4,063.87	1.73	0.04	
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,491.95	6,446.00	6,471.77	6,444.81	26.96	0.42	
Industry Index	6,126.59	6,108.42	6,108.42	6,129.68	-21.27	-0.35	
Services Index	1,628.97	1,616.20	1,616.20	1,625.88	-9.68	-0.60	
MSX Shariah Index	549.48	549.17	549.17	548.92	0.25	0.05	
MSX TR INDEX	4,905.91	4,884.40	4,888.95	4,886.87	2.08	0.04	
=====							
Trading Summary							
Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap.....	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
6,515,066	1,969,588	368	22,082,659,988	12	19	23	54

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM0000003234 RENAISSANCE SER	30,000	12,900	2	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.420	0.010	2.381	0.430	0.418	0.430	0.100	101,656,300
OM0000000077 AL OMANIYA FIN	50,162	6,019	6	0.120	0.120	0.119	0.120	0.118	0.002	1.895	0.119	0.116	0.123	0.100	38,033,221
OM0000001448 RAYSUT CEMENT	22,000	5,456	2	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.248	0.245	0.003	1.224	0.248	0.235	0.254	0.100	49,600,000
OM0000000820 VISION INSURANCE	878,000	78,145	29	0.089	0.090	0.089	0.089	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.100	8,900,000
OM0000000798 BANK MUSCAT	373,600	185,697	23	0.506	0.506	0.488	0.488	0.486	0.002	0.403	0.488	0.480	0.506	0.100	1,780,088,446
OM0000000140 OMAN FLOUR MILLS	1,370	1,080	2	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.788	0.000	0.000	0.788	0.716	0.788	0.100	124,110,000
OM0000000153 OMINVEST	14,000	4,396	1	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.000	0.000	0.314	0.310	0.314	0.100	253,640,511
OM0000000200 AHJI BANK	119,325	13,123	9	0.111	0.111	0.110	0.111	0.111	0.000	0.000	0.111	0.110	0.111	0.100	216,411,979
OM0000000226 AL JAZEERA SERVICES	2,165	736	2	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.000	0.000	0.340	0.336	0.340	0.100	20,809,453
OM0000000240 AL SHARGIA INV.	447	39	1	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.000	0.000	0.088	0.000	0.088	0.100	7,920,000
OM0000000026 OMAN TELECOM	119,881	88,786	20	0.740	0.740	0.740	0.740	0.744	-0.004	-0.538	0.740	0.740	0.752	0.100	555,000,000
OM0000000368 OQEDDOO	114,568	42,131	15	0.368	0.370	0.368	0.368	0.370	-0.002	-0.541	0.366	0.366	0.376	0.100	239,547,477
OM0000000178 OMAN CEMENT	33,360	7,908	9	0.238	0.239	0.235	0.237	0.239	-0.002	-0.837	0.235	0.233	0.236	0.100	78,416,832
OM0000000386 SOHAR INT BANK	1,450,000	153,700	22	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.107	-0.001	-0.935	0.106	0.105	0.107	0.100	316,946,603
OM0000000172 ALANWAR INVESTMENT	20,000	1,920	1	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.097	-0.001	-1.031	0.096	0.096	0.097	0.100	19,200,000
OM0000000176 JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	30,000	10,030	11	0.370	0.370	0.366	0.368	0.372	-0.004	-1.075	0.366	0.364	0.366	0.100	45,862,444
OM0000000125 OMAN INVEST FIN.	176,284	29,985	11	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.136	0.138	-0.002	-1.449	0.138	0.136	0.138	0.100	32,223,000
OM0000000160 NATIONAL GAS	59,000	7,680	10	0.131	0.131	0.130	0.130	0.132	-0.002	-1.515	0.130	0.130	0.145	0.100	11,050,000
OM0000000268 AL ANWAR CERAMIC	55,800	21,763	10	0.390	0.394	0.390	0.390	0.386	0.006	-1.515	0.384	0.382	0.392	0.100	85,800,000
OM0000000190 MUSCAT FINANCE	100,000	5,700	11	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.058	-0.001	-1.724	0.057	0.056	0.058	0.100	17,507,341
Total	20	3,648,962	672,194	197											
Parallel Market															
OM00000007084 MCT DESALINATE	210,477	20,147	27	0.099	0.099	0.094	0.096	0.091	0.005	5.495	0.094	0.094	0.095	0.100	14,932,838
OM00000001482 NATIONAL BANK OMAN	23,300	4,320	3	0.194	0.194	0.194	0.194	0.189	0.005	2.646	0.194	0.189	0.194	0.100	315,433,593
OM00000001517 HSBC BANK OMAN	20,000	1,860	3	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.092	0.001	1.087	0.093	0.092	0.093	0.100	186,029,089
OM00000004768 MADINA TAKAFUL	55,000	5,330	4	0.097	0.097	0.096	0.097	0.096	0.001	1.042	0.096	0.096	0.097	0.100	16,975,000
OM00000002549 BANK DHOFA	60,000	7,970	3	0.133	0.133	0.132	0.133	0.132	0.001	0.758	0.132	0.132	0.133	0.100	398,514,741
OM00000001152 OMAN NAT ENG	111,878	10,293	13	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.090	0.094	0.100	11,960,000
OM00000001178 MUSCAT GASES	2,376	428	1	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.000	0.000	0.166	0.000	0.166	0.100	4,980,000
OM00000001566 OMAN FISHERIES	5,000	289	2	0.057	0.058	0.057	0.062	0.063	0.000	0.000	0.058	0.058	0.060	0.100	8,875,000
OM00000001962 AL MADINA INV.	5,000	285	1	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.057	0.057	0.059	0.100	4,200,000
OM00000002572 OMAN OIL MARKETING	1,000	904	1	0.904	0.904	0.904	0.904	0.904	0.000	0.000	0.904	0.896	0.904	0.100	55,352,000
OM00000001325 GLOBAL INV. H.	5,000	300	1	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.063	0.063	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.060	0.063	0.100	12,600,000
OM00000003681 VOLTAMP ENERGY	1,555	179	2	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.118	0.118	0.000	0.000	0.115	0.115	0.120	0.100	9,605,525
OM00000003711 SOHAR POWER	1,900	302	2	0.043	0.043	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.000	0.000	0.041	0.041	0.043	0.100	3,061,410
OM00000004420 BANK NIZWA	204,291	19,826	12	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.097	0.098	0.100	216,864,444
OM00000004925 ALBATINAH POWER	99,993	5,100	10	0.052	0.052	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.000	0.000	0.051	0.050	0.051	0.100	34,419,259
OM00000005280 OMAN ARAB BANK	22,029	3,857	1	0.097	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.161	0.170	0.100	277,122,990
OM00000008447 OMAN REIT FUND	3,800	334	2	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.089	0.089	0.000	0.000	0.088	0.087	0.088	0.100	55,273,546
OM00000003521 GALFAR ENGINEER	302,700	22,704	24	0.076	0.076	0.074	0.075	0.076	-0.001	-1.316	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	15,223,983
OM00000001681 OMAN EMIRATES HO.	28,321	2,034	4	0.070	0.070	0.068	0.069	0.070	-0.001	-1.429	0.068	0.068	0.070	0.100	8,408,375
OM00000002374 UNITED FINANCE	55,625	3,004	6	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.055	-0.001	-1.818	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	18,853,798
OM00000004933 AL SUWADI POWER	17,082	871	3	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.052	-0.001	-1.923	0.051	0.051	0.052	0.100	36,434,723
OM00000005983 PHILIP POWER	164,613	8,067	14	0.049	0.050	0.049	0.049	0.050	-0.001	-2.000	0.049	0.049	0.050	0.100	17,697,472
OM00000007407 DHOFA GENERATING	20,000	1,480	1	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.076	-0.002	-2.632	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.100	16,445,760
OM00000001319 ALUMINIUM PROD.	126,400	16,860	8	0.138	0.138	0.133	0.133	0.140	-0.007	-5.000	0.133	0.131	0.133	0.100	4,465,003
OM00000004735 SEMCOBIP SALALAH	47,500	3,373	9	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.075	-0.004	-5.333	0.071	0.071	0.075	0.100	6774,608
OM00000004248 SMN POWER HOLDING	75,000	3,750	3	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.055	-0.005	-9.091	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.100	9,981,780
Total	26	1,674,140	143,765	160											

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NEC signs pact with Sagemcom

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The National Energy Center (NEC) started its collaboration with the French smart technology giant Sagemcom since 2011 to bring the technology to the Sultanate of Oman and commence the manufacturing locally in the country to align with Oman's Vision 2040.

The two companies signed a

manufacturing licencing and co-operation agreement to start the manufacturing smart energy meters in Oman.

Signing ceremony

The signing ceremony was held on November 15, 2021 at the headquarters of Sagemcom in Paris under the patronage of the guest of honour, His Excellency Dr Ghazi bin Saeed Al Rawas,

Oman's Ambassador to France, Sheikh Abdullah Al Maamary, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Energy Center, and Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Advisor to the Board of Directors of the National Energy Center, and Eng. Omar Al-Wahaibi, the chief executive officer (CEO) of Nama Holding Company, and Eng. Abdullah Al-Badi, CEO of the company.

IN SOHAR PORT

Pact inked to support local initiatives

MUSCAT: Majis Industrial Services company signed on Sunday two first-of-a-kind agreements in the Sultanate of Oman dealing with supporting local initiatives by utilising technology in developing the company's work to provide exceptional services for its beneficiaries in the Sohar Industrial Port and beyond.

Cloud services

The first agreement, signed with Oman Data Park, utilises specialised cloud services provided by Oracle Cooperation in the fields of protecting data, as well as the expansion, flexibility and security of government e-services.

Laptop devices

The second agreement, signed with Onsor Technologies, will provide laptop devices for government organisations and companies to guarantee the use of the latest all-in-one devices in support and safety services without draining capital budgets. Majis Industrial Services is a company wholly owned by the government of the Sultanate of Oman. It was founded in 2006 to provide sustainable water solutions in the Sohar Port and Freezone, as well as the Sohar Industrial City. — **ONA**

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CONNECT



JOB VACANCIES

A Contracting company in Oman is looking for the below mentioned post:

Accountant
5 to 8 yrs exp in Payroll & accounts related.

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*Exp in Tally/ERP a must.

CV's to be sent to the below mentioned ID:
jobsmtc2020@gmail.com

JOB VACANCIES

SALES/MARKETING

Looking **urgently** for a well experienced building material sales man with computer knowledge.
Contact 92525406

Need experience **Sales Executive** for Gas field industry. Dood sales and communication Oman D/L needed. send cv on: osgcfinance@yahoo.com

DRIVER

Drivers for Light / SUV personal cars required. 2-3 years of experience. Interested candidates can email: deosil03@gmail.com or Call/WhatsApp: 92569177

MEDICAL

Urgently required we'll experienced **Gynaecologist** (arab speaking), **Microbiology doctor, nurse and lab technicians** (General & molecular). Candidates with MOH license are preferred.
Email: apexhealth21@gmail.com
Whatsapp no: 968 95773456

Urgently required a **Pharmacist (Omani National)** for handling regulatory affairs along with detailing of pharmaceutical products to hospitals & pharmacies in Muscat area.
Contact 93809755 E-mail: rehim.ak@areenmuscatllc.com

ENGINEER

Test Engineer. B.Tech / Diploma in Mechanical Engineering degree holder with experience of minimum 1 year experience in Inspection & Testing of products. Please send the CV to hr@safetyoman.com

Urgently required Project Engineer for a well reputed interior fit out company in Oman. Candidate should have gulf experience in interior fit out. Contact +968 24816994
Mob: +968 92802425

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JOB WANTED

Senior Accountant
Indian male M. Com with PG in computers, working as Senior Accountant in Oman with over 12 years with advanced knowledge in MS Dynamics, ODDQ, Tally Erp/Prime (Tally customising with developer), looking for suitable position.
Contact on +96871551938

FINANCE MANAGER
Finance Professional CA/CIMA/ MBA, with 18 years of GCC experience, open to Immediate Managerial Vacancies
Contact Number # 78556829

Inventory Coordinator
Indian male 31: Having 8 years experience handling Retail F&B Operations, inventory, purchase, Sales & Accounting with various other skills, NOC available.
Contact: 96219904
Email: khanshab98@gmail.com

MANAGER
MANAGER (Accounts / Finance / Real Estate /Admin & HR), MBA (Finance), PG Diploma in HRM, Bcom, 20yrs experience in Muscat. Can join immediately. NOC/RELEASE available. Please contact: 91245950

Executive Camp Boss/Logistics/Store/Procurement
Graduate with 10 years experience in Oman as camp administration-in-charge with Oman D/L & 15 yrs experience in Logistics/store/inventory control/ procurement exp in oil and gas field is looking for suitable position. Fully vaccinated, valid Oman gamca medical and ready to join immediately.
Whatsapp 0091 9656724161
Email - rajeshm117821@gmail.com

SALES/MARKETING
10 year Oman Experience in Sales Marketing and Customer relation, looking for any type of suitable Job. Release Letter/NOC and driving Licence available.
Contact 95034204

CIVIL ENGINEER
An Indian, Graduate Civil Engineer having 22+ yrs Exp. in Construction Sector on Buildings, Infrastructure & Electro-Mechanical Projects with Project Management/Contracts Exp. looking for a Middle Management Position in the Consulting/Contracting Firm. Valid Engineer Visa & D/ L, NOC available/Transferable Visa.
Contact No. 91996650

Senior Project Manager / Project Director
Indian National, 18 Yrs. of work experience, Graduate Civil Engineer, Master's in Construction Project Management; Construction Law & Dispute Resolution from UK. Having expertise in Project, Contract & Claims Management. Experienced in Handling High End Hospitality, Residential & Commercial Projects from initiation till completion. Seeks Placement as Clients or Consultants representative in Oman.
Call / WhatsApp +971543499629

FINANCE
Indian Male, Manager Accounts, M.Com with over 20 years of experience in Oman and India, in Accounts, Finance and Software implementation is looking for an immediate opening in senior level post. NOC available.
GSM: 92334161

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Indian male having 21 years HR & admin experience in Oman seeks suitable job. Contact 79329696

Indian male graduate Executive Secretary with Stenography/Oman driving license and 20 years experience in Muscat available with NOC for immediate joining.
Contact 79256679

Indian HR - Professional (MBA-HR with 14yr exp) 8yrs oman Exp(HR/SAP/Admin) with Oman DL& NOC. Seeking openings in Human Resource & Admin jobs.
Contact: +968-78539053
Email: rkkambat@gmail.com

Looking for a Job: **"Office Clerk"**
"Encoder" Filipino Male, age 23 with 2 years relevant experience holding a Bachelor's Degree, computer literate with good communication skills & keen to details.
Email: abelgasjasper@gmail.com
Contact No: 9356 2783

Msc. Chemistry 1 year Exp as Quality control chemist. Contact 95662771
Email: nijani19077@gmail.com

Indian Male, MBA,BCOM having 7 yr Oman & 4 yr India experience in HR / Administration & Purchaser looking for suitable placement.
Contact 97914340.
Email: sampathrajkv@gmail.com

Indian male graduate Executive Secretary with Stenography/Oman D/L & 20years experience in Muscat available with NOC for immediate joining. CTC 79256679

Indian male, smart, excellent English, Masters, Arabic speaker, 18years Oman experience. Immediate. Contact 99283938.

Omani Male 35 years old looking for PRO Job with 15 years of experience of same. # 92049106, 95422144

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Accounts Manager with MBA - Finance having more than 25 years working experience in various countries and in different Industry. In Oman 13 years, now seeking a well paid job with Family Status. Contact 91085373

Indian male, 5 years experienced in GCC,available for instant joining in Accounts,IT & logistics or any other suitable post.NOC available.
Contact 79817305
Email: faizal7586@gmail.com

Young Indian male - Seeking a deserving profile in the Accounting sector B.COM GRADUATE. (Degree in Bachelor of Commerce from Madras University (Polyglot Institute - Muscat, Oman) now available in Muscat till 28-02-2022. Contact 79925048
Email: abhileo63@gmail.com

ACCA part qualified, Masters and B.com degree, 7+ yrs experience in Oman. DL&NOC. Immediate availability. Contact 78393180

With more than 13 years experience in different financial sectors. Good working knowledge in ERP softwares & advanced excel. Can do audit and consultancy work. Contact 92010947.
Email: vimal9kannoth@gmail.com

ACCA affiliate with 2 years experience. Currently in Muscat, having NOC and D/L. Contact 96595067.
Email: farleymartyres19@gmail.com

28yr old male Accountant currently in Oman with 4 yrs work experience looking for job related to Accounting/ Finance. Contact 94038082

Accountant with more than 6 years experience seeks suitable placement. 2 yrs valid visa available. # 94031834

Corporate Banking and Wealth Management professional with 4 years experience in premiere Indian Banks. Seeking opportunities in Finance & Consulting. Education: PGDM Finance and B.Tech. Contact: 9430 9593

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs 8months of experience. 6yrs of Oman experience. Looking for a suitable placement.
Contact +968 9919 2490,
Whatsapp +91 8075337320
E-mail: tonymxx@gmail.com

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs 8months of experience. 6yrs of Oman experience. Looking for a suitable placement.
Contact +968 9919 2490,
Whatsapp +91 8075337320
E-mail: tonymxx@gmail.com

Pakistani Male, 7 yrs Experience in MEP AutoCAD draughtsman looking suitable job position.Currently in Oman. Contact 79711912, 98994156

Interior designer with 13 yrs experience in position of project manager, coordination,quantity surveyor,quality control, looking suitable job. Contact 96146432. Email samsuint@gmail.com

Diploma Civil engineer having 10yrs Oman experience mainly in architectural/structural drafting. looking for a suitable position. Contact 79112971.

Freelancer 2D /3D Autocad Revit drafting MEP, Arch, B.Tech. 99506977

PROJECT ENGINEER
Indian male, having 7years of experience in Construction with Masters from England, Currently working as PROJECT ENGINEER in Muscat (family status). D/L available.
Contact 91731694

HR / Finance
Indian, Male, Masters degree in HR and Finance with 5+ years of experience in Oman as HR Asst with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.
GSM : +968 93835905
Email : chris_alwin@yahoo.com

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER
MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of Trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas, Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.
Contact 93270023 rajugetme10@yahoo.com

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS
Indian Female(MBA Finance) having more than 15 years of experience in Oman in Finance and Accounts seeks suitable senior positions. NOC Available.
Contact # 94953826 / 92824146

FINANCE
Senior Accountant, Indian Male MBA (Finance) with 9 + years of experience of which 6 years of experience in KSA in Financial Accounting including VAT. Currently in Oman.
Contact: 78370670
Email: abid.khan.a@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer
Indian,30, (B.E Mechanical) with 6 years Oman experience in design & supervision of HVAC & Mechanical systems for Comm./Resi. buildings, hotels, hospitals & hypermarkets looking for suitable openings. Valid D/L & NOC available.
Contact 95434381
email: shuhaibusman313@gmail.com

ENGINEER (IT)
Indian, Female, B.Tech, with 2+ years of experience in Oman as Coordinator and Marketing with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.
GSM : +968 71198240
Email: jc.clarrinda@gmail.com

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5. MBA (Int. Marketing) with Omani DL with NOC.
+968 79645179, bdomanconstruction@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS ADMIN
Accountant with 10 yrs experience in Trading & Contracting, Oil & Gas, Building Materials, Manufacturing, Constructions & IT sectors. Expertise in Accounting, Finalization, Auditing, Budgeting, Costing, Payroll & VAT. NOC / Local release & Driving licence available.
Contact: 91183601
E-mail: suneel.suneel@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER
B.Tech graduate with 1+ years of experience working as a Site Engineer & Quantity Surveyor. Proficient in Quantity Survey, Quality Control, 2D Drafting, 3D Modelling & Project Management. Currently in Oman. Available to join shortly.
92408363
sawad.mohammed@outlook.com

SALES / BDM / ADMIN
Indian Male, B.Sc. (Mathematics), PGD in Business Management. 16 Yrs. of Oman Experience, Worked with the leading Companies in Oman (MCT, SLL & Nizwa). Sales, Admin & Offfield Services Companies & Key Accounts Handling. Good in MS Word, Excel, letter drafting. Fluency in Arabic, English, Hindi & Malayalam. Valid Oman D/L.
Contact: +968 9527 8838, anup2p4p@yahoo.com

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER
MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of Trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas, Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.
Contact 93270023 rajugetme10@yahoo.com

JOB WANTED

DRIVER

Driver need job with own car.
Contact 94722609

An experienced Oman heavy duty driving license holder seeking a job.
Contact 7830 8268

3 yrs experience in driving with car looking suitable job. Contact 90508815

Bangladeshi driver with 8 yrs experience seeks job. Contact 96317701

EDUCATION

MA in Clinical Psychology M.Ed in Learning Disability B.Ed in Special Education Looking for jobs in schools as a main stream teacher
Contact: 96646771

Indian Female, B.Ed, MSc Maths - with Distinction, 6 yr's exp seeking teaching jobs. Contact 92106767

LOGISTIC

Indian male, MBA in International Business, PG diploma in shipping and logistics and BBA in travel and tourism. 1 year experience in logistics well known about logistics documentation. Good in MS Excel, word. Looking for a job in Logistics coordinator, HR, Administration. Contact 93887916,
Email: Mufidrahiman@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Indian, 18 yrs experience in driving, sales, stores, aluminium fabricator holding Omani D/L. # 99743709

MANAGER

Indian male graduate with D/L, have 15 years experience in Oman seeks mid-management job in Sales, Marketing, procurement, admin.
Contact 95454929

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Diploma Mechanical Engineer & CNC VMC operator exp 3 yrs currently in Oman. NOC available. Contact 94227542.
Email dinithidas@gmail.com

MEDICAL

Sudanese medical representative 3 yrs exp in Oman Market. # 93513927

PURCHASE

Indian male, 17 yrs exp in commercial/Warehouse/inventory & procurement field seeks suitable position. Having D/L. Contact 98531104

Procurement engineer with five years Oxy experience looking for new opportunity. Kindly contact +968 7827 7656. husbilhumsath@gmail.com

Indian male, 17 yrs exp in commercial/Warehouse/inventory & procurement field seeks suitable position. Having D/L. Contact 98531104

Indian male (37), B.com 11+years of purchase & procurement experience in Oman with valid D/L &NOC looking for a suitable position.
Contact 94038075

ENGINEER

Project Manager, Construction Manager Indian male BE civil 25 years experience in Buildings and infrastructures handled Ministry & private projects in Oman looking for job DL available. Contact 79718146

Diploma in Civil Engg Looking for a suitable job 4 yrs of Indian experience good knowledge in Site Engg,AutoCAD,Revit Arch & MS office.Currently in Oman. Contact 95582716

Electrical eng 10 years experience in O&M and projects , PMP, D/L looking for job , Gsm 71543379

Approved DCRP Protection Engineer level 4, BSc, Electrical Engineer, seeks a full time job.
Contact 96670117

Experience civil engineer in Project Management With 20 plus years of experience in construction, served as Project Manager for 4 yrs in Oman available for immediate hiring. NOC available. Contact +968 9284 4214.

Civil Engineer with overall 8 years experience (6.5 years oman exp) is looking for an job. Currently in Oman. Contact 94274374

BE Mech Eng, 1 year Exp as CNC operator. Contact 95662773
Email: ajith.m9642@gmail.com

Electrical Engineer having 4 years experience in oman with tanweer looking for job in field of electricity network maintenance, MEP, or project's have D/L. Contact 98005485, Whatsapp 78045691

Computer Science Engineering graduate with knowledge in Java and Django, currently on family visa, seeking suitable placement. Contact 93357544

Diploma,Electrical Engineer,Indian Male, 17 yrs of Oman Exp in 33/11KV/ LV Substation & OHL projects & maintenance experience with NOC & D/L. Contact 98049057

B.E civil engineer having 12 yrs Oman Experience looking for sub contracting jobs like plastering and all. Contact 79813309

Civil Diploma Engineer, Indian 12+years experience (Building, Roads & Dam) with D/L, Available in Oman till 20th Nov. Seeking Placement. 99107906, 97882917, +91-9747519961

Project Engineer (HVAC) Mechanical engineer graduate, Indian male, having 3 years of experience in MEP projects. Seeks suitable placement. Currently in Muscat. # 78347383
Email: tomvarghese1911@gmail.com

Sudanese Petroleum Engineer, MSc Mechanical Engineering; Renewable Energy, Seven Years O&G Experience. Contact 79006704

Indian male (24) Mechanical engineering 2 years (Oman) experience in oil and gas field with OQ approved permit authority with D/L. Currently available in Oman looking for suitable placement. Contact 72050244
Email: kssanju97@gmail.com

B.E civil engineer having 13 yrs Oman experience mainly in building construction looking for suitable position. Contact 72132426

B.E civil Engineer, 8 years of Oman experience in building construction. Looking for suitable position, NOC & D/L Available. Contact 79083823

Electrical project manager (Btech) 14+ years experience in substation, OHL EPC projects upto 132kv with NOC and Omani D/L seeking placement. Contact 95290833

SALES/MARKETING

Indian Male having 20+ years' experience in UAE seek suitable jobs in Sales & Management preferably in pharmaceutical industries. GCC Driving License available.
Contact 94289301, 95217432

Pakistani Male (5 years experience), M.Phil, Marketing and Sales Expert in the oil & energy industry. Skilled in Lectureship, Research, Business Administration. Contact 91102995
fahadikram96@hotmail.com

Indian holding MBA with 7 years of experience in Sales and Marketing in Oman with valid D/L. Looking for suitable job opportunity.
Contact +968 7902 4220
Indian male, BBA, 26 years, having 3 and half year experience in Sales and Marketing, D/L, looking for suitable placement. Contact 96550844
Email: arshaqrajan000@gmail.com

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Fresh Indian NIT Chemical Engineer on resident visa with Oman D/L seeks placement in reputed companies: 96087321/93972362

Indian Male, MBA, BCOM having 7 yr Oman & 4 yr India experience in HR / Administration & Purchaser looking for suitable placement.
Contact 97914340.
Email: sampathrajkv@gmail.com

Marketing & Business development Manager 32 yrs with good market knowledge & experience of 12 yrs.Gcc D/L, Can Join immediately., Fluency in English, Hindi, Malayalam & basic Arabic. Contact +968 79975463
nadeemshaikh198925@gmail.com

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COFFEE HAS BOTH BENEFICIAL, HARMFUL SHORT-TERM HEALTH EFFECTS



A new research has found that caffeinated coffee consumption can have both beneficial and harmful short-term health effects. The findings were presented at the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2021. The meeting was a premier global exchange of the latest scientific advancements, research and evidence-based clinical practice updates in cardiovascular science for health care worldwide. "Coffee is the most commonly consumed beverage in the world, yet its health effects remain uncertain," said study author Gregory Marcus, M.D., M.A.S., associate chief of cardiology for research and endowed professor of atrial fibrillation research at the University of California, San Francisco. "While the majority of long-term observational studies have suggested multiple potential benefits of drinking coffee, this is the first randomized trial to investigate the real-time, physiologic consequences of coffee consumption." Marcus and colleagues enrolled 100 adult volunteers, and they were assigned to wear continuously recording ECG devices (to track heart rhythm), wrist-worn devices to track physical activity and sleep; and continuous glucose

monitors to track blood sugar levels for two weeks. The participants were an average age of 38 years, 51 per cent were women and 48 per cent were white. Researchers also obtained DNA saliva samples from the participants to assess genetic variants that may affect caffeine metabolism. Participants were then randomly assigned to either avoid or consume coffee for no more than two consecutive days each for 14 consecutive days. Coffee and espresso consumption were recorded in real-time via a "timestamp button" on the ECG monitor, and researchers tracked trips to coffee shops with geo tracking. In addition, participants completed daily questionnaires to detail how much coffee they had consumed every morning. The analysis found that coffee consumption was associated with a 54 per cent increase in premature ventricular contractions, a type of abnormal heartbeat originating in the lower heart chambers reported to feel like a skipped heartbeat. In contrast, drinking more coffee was associated with fewer episodes of supraventricular tachycardia, an abnormally rapid heart rhythm arising from the upper heart chamber. Consuming coffee was consistently associated with more physical activity as well as less sleep. Specifically:

- Participants who consumed coffee logged more than 1,000 additional steps per day compared to days when they did not drink coffee.
 - On the day participants drank coffee, they had 36 fewer minutes of sleep per night according to their Fitbit devices.
 - Drinking more than one coffee drink more than doubled the number of irregular heartbeats arising from the heart's lower chambers.
 - Each additional cup of coffee consumed was associated with nearly 600 more steps per day and 18 fewer minutes of sleep per night.
 - There were no differences in continuously recorded glucose measured when the study participants consumed versus avoided coffee.
- These findings were corroborated by analyses of adherence to their randomization assignment and amplified when more versus less coffee was consumed. "More physical activity, which appears to be prompted by coffee consumption, has numerous health benefits, such as reduced risks of Type 2 diabetes and several cancers, and is associated with greater longevity," Marcus said. "On the other hand, reduced sleep is associated with a variety of adverse psychiatric, neurologic and cardiovascular outcomes. More frequent

abnormal heartbeats from the upper heart chambers influence risk of atrial fibrillation, and more frequent abnormal beats from the lower chambers, or ventricles, increase the risk of heart failure. These results highlight the complex relationship between coffee and health." The study participants with genetic variants associated with faster caffeine metabolism exhibited more abnormal heartbeats originating in the ventricles, or PVCs when more caffeinated coffee was consumed. The slower an individual metabolises caffeine based on their genetics, the more sleep they lose when they drink caffeinated coffee. The investigators also sought to determine if changes in exercise or sleep influenced coffee's effects on abnormal heart rhythms, and no such association was identified. Marcus noted that because coffee was randomly assigned to the study participants, cause-and-effect can be inferred. These observations were made during repeated assessments of days when coffee was consumed versus when it was not for each study participant, eliminating concerns regarding differences in individual-level characteristics as an explanation for these results.

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PRICE BAIZAS 200

THE NATION CELEBRATES



12 pages of National Day pictures and reports

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Mohamed Mustafa



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ROUND-UP

LEADING ISLAMIC BANK

Bank Nizwa announces a range of exciting National Day offers

MUSCAT: As Oman prepares to celebrate its 51st National Day, Bank Nizwa is marking the occasion with the launch of a number of National Day offers for its customers. As the leading Islamic bank in the Sultanate, Bank Nizwa has been recognised for its premium customer service, seamless banking procedures and exciting offers. Under the National Day offers, customers can enjoy a financing rate starting from 4.95 per cent on all home, auto and personal finances, complemented by a waive off on the processing fees of any such finance.

The offer also includes the first finance instalment to begin after two months of availing the finance facility. With a diverse portfolio of products and services, Bank Nizwa ensures that it has specialised solutions to cater to the differential needs and demands of its various customers. “The National Day is a very dear occasion for everyone living in Oman, and on behalf of the Bank Nizwa family I would like to congratulate His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik and the people of Oman for achieving remarkable progress, growth and prosperity

through the years,” said Khaled Al Kayed, CEO of Bank Nizwa. “As a bank revered for its customer-centric approach and strong customer relations, we decided to offer them something which resonates well with the excitement and spirit of the 51st National Day. We are happy to celebrate this glorious occasion with our prized customers.” Over the years, Bank Nizwa’s innovative campaigns, thoughtful offers and unfaltering customer service have been instrumental in its success. Complementing this with a well-diversified retail and corporate portfolio, the bank has been

consistently exceeding customer expectations while setting new benchmarks in the Islamic banking sector. Bank Nizwa constantly endeavors to boost customer engagement and enhance the overall banking experience whether it is through its seamless digital media platforms, well-knit network of branches across Oman, or its efficient customer service channels. Aligning itself to the objectives outlined in Oman Vision 2040, Bank Nizwa has remained steadfast in its vision to be the leading Islamic financing institution in the country.



EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT

GPT inks distribution pact with HONOR

MUSCAT: Coinciding with the celebrations of Oman's 51st National Day, Global Phone Technology (GPT) has signed an exclusive distribution agreement with HONOR, a leading global provider of smart devices. Speaking on the occasion, Pradeep Tripathi, Chairman of GPT said, “At GPT we are committed to offering state-of-the-art global products to customers in Oman. Moreover, this is in line with His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik's 2040 Vision of fostering an innovative and technologically enabled society. Our partnership with HONOR is an endeavour to fulfill both these objectives.” Established in 2013, HONOR is a leading global provider of smart devices. It is committed to becoming a global iconic tech brand, which enables a smart life. Given its strategic focus on innovation, quality and service, HONOR is dedicated to developing technology that empowers people around the globe to go beyond through its R&D capabilities and forward-looking technology. Its portfolio of innova-



tive products work on creating a new intelligent world. HONOR has the distinction of pioneering many industry-first technologies, and possesses excellent R&D capabilities to support the development of its full portfolio of smartphones and other smart devices. HONOR is the latest addition to GPT's growing portfolio of brands. GPT is a modern age technology distributor of mobile devices, smart phones, tablets and accessories in the Sultanate of Oman. Established in 2016, GPT has grown from strength to strength due to its inherent understanding of distribution in emerging markets like UAE, Oman and other GCC countries.

HIGHLY COMPETITIVE FINALS

Red Bull Neymar Jr's Five tournament finals come to an end in the Sultanate

MUSCAT: The Red Bull Neymar Jr's Five tournament came to a close on November 12, 2021 at the breathtaking Yankit location, with Ruwi Team triumphing over Samba with a total of 1-0. Held in partnership with Red Bull Mobile Oman and talabat Oman and had 16 teams competing against each other, the riveting national finals saw player Majid Al Wahaibi score the winning goal that sent audiences into a frenzy, securing his team's well-deserved spot at the World Finals in Qatar. He, along with teammates Falah Al Wahaibi, Hisham Al Wahaibi, Hamza Atif, Abdullah Al Wahaibi, Nebras Al Wahaibi, Hamoud Al Wahaibi, and Monther Al Wahaibi, will head to Qatar early next year to compete against the other qualifying teams from around the world for the one-of-a-kind chance to face off against Neymar Jr himself in a group of five of his fellow stars. During the highly competitive finals, Ruwi Team gave the crowd even more cause for commotion by defeating teams Nakhal and Ruwi Club at the semifinals, scoring totals of 3-1 and 5-1 respec-



tively. The team had previously almost snagged first place in the 2019 Red Bull Neymar Jr's Five, but lost against Family Team, coming in second. After that, vowed to Ruwi Team train long and hard to ensure a glorious win in the next tournament. As for that win, which indeed came after a two-year COVID-imposed pause, team coach Mohamed Al Wahaibi fervently thanked the organizers for the tournament, saying: “We eagerly wait for this event and make it a point to participate every year. We have trained

all year to win, with two qualifying teams, Ruwi Team and Ruwi Club. We thank Red Bull Neymar Jr's Five for this opportunity and we can't wait to go to Qatar, represent Oman and become the crowning international champions.” Red Bull Neymar Jr's Five is the largest international tournament for five-player football teams and is fast-paced, tactical, and fun. Each team consists of five players and two reserves. During a 10-minute match, two five-player teams compete without a goalkeeper. When one team scores a

goal, the other loses a player, and the match ends when one team loses all players or depending on the results at the buzzer. Every year the tournament brings together men and women from around the world in exceptional sporting matches, and this year, it's no different as it's back to give tens of thousands of football fans on six continents the chance to flex their football skills in an exciting and spirited setting. And no one will enjoy it more than the football-passionate Sultanate of Oman!

EXCITING AND FUN TO DRIVE

Own a stylish Kia Sportage AWD and get a chance to win it back too

MUSCAT: Customers looking forward to owning the exciting and fun to drive Kia Sportage can now get a chance to Win it back instantly through Scratch & Win Offer. All one has to do is to buy a Kia Sportage and just before taking the delivery and submitting all necessary documents, go for a Scratch & Win offer. Other than the chance to Win a car one can also win 50 per cent price payable or Doubling of Cash Gift amount or win periodic services up to 100,000 Kms. Three customers have already won their cars back. (Conditions apply. Please visit Kia showroom for details.) The campaign is valid until 28th December, 2021.

The stylish and powerful Kia Sportage makes a mark with its advanced features, fuel-efficient performance and inspiring technology. The Sportage features front and rear fog lamps and projection headlamps with bulb type LED daytime running lights, 17" alloy wheels and Continental tyres that enhance the SUV's overall looks for a more modern appearance.

The Sportage's cabin exhibits a sense of modernity. It is equipped with power windows, rear AC vents, steering audio controls, Bluetooth, radio with USB, tinted glass, driver's seat height adjuster, 60:40 split rear seats, tilt steering, trip computer, sunglass case and cigar lighter with ash tray.

The Sportage is available in options of 1.6-litre GDi Euro4, 130 hp engine producing 16.4 kg.m. Torque; 2.0-litre MPI Euro4, 153 hp engine, producing 19.6 kg.m. torque and 2.4-litre, 182 hp engine producing 24.2 kg.m. torque. The engines are paired to a 6-speed automatic transmission.

Exclusive to the Sportage is the Dynamax Intelligent AWD System, offering automatic torque distribution that predicts the terrain underneath the tires and instantly transfers torque for better traction. This can be useful during acceleration, cornering at high speeds, and in low traction scenarios such as inclement weather.



The stylish and powerful Kia Sportage makes a mark with its advanced features, fuel-efficient performance and inspiring technology. The Sportage features front and rear fog lamps and projection headlamps with bulb type LED daytime running lights, 17" alloy wheels and Continental tyres that enhance the SUV's overall looks for a more modern appearance.

This is in stark contrast to other AWD systems due to Dynamax being proactive rather than reactive. By ensuring that the AWD system is one step ahead of the car at all times, Dynamax can significantly improve performance, stability and fuel economy, along with safety. The Dynamax system has

a high-thermal stress tolerance as well, which shields the system during steep or long climbs, improving safety and functionality. For example, when you are going around a corner in the rain, the Dynamax AWD System continuously monitors your driving conditions and preemptively adjusts

power to the individual wheels. All of this is shown to the driver in their instrument cluster, providing a real-time look at the torque manipulation while driving. The Sportage also features power outer side mirrors, keyless entry system, auto cruise control, side repeater lamps in outside mirror, roof rack and cargo screen among others. Already a strong performer in Euro NCAP's important 'Safety Assist' category, Sportage buyers have access to a wide array of existing driver assist systems. These include anti-lock braking system (ABS), driver and front passenger airbags, electronic stability program (ESP), hill-start assist control (HAC), downhill brake control (DBC), tyre pressure monitoring system (TPMS) and rear parking assist system. Kia models are equipped with some local accessories to enhance their looks, feel and functionality. Customers are welcome to get full details of these local fitments by visiting any Kia showroom.

THABIT AND SAMEEH

Khimji's Sparkle celebrates first Omani tug masters at Asyad Drydock in Duqm

MUSCAT: As part of its ongoing efforts to lend continuous support to national talent and help them realise their true potential, Khimji's Sparkle Marine Services take pride in announcing their first Omani Tug Masters - Thabit Al Alawi and Sameeh Al Rasadi. This is a first of its kind achievement in the industry. Thabit and Sameeh are currently serving on board the tugboats Dorat Al Behar, Ameerat Al Behar, and Zahrat Al Behar at Asyad Drydock in Duqm. The tugs stationed at Asyad drydock handle some of the world's largest oil tankers, gas tankers, ore carriers, container ships, aircraft carriers and submarines, amongst other vessels. The efforts of Khimji's Sparkle are aimed at skilling individuals to work in critical fields that require advanced skills and extensive training in dealing with various types of giant ships, especially under challenging scenarios. Over the past seven years, both Sameeh and Thabit have proven their mettle, dedication and willingness to operate as tug masters. They have been exposed to extensive on-the-job training at Duqm and have also been a part of the in-

ternational training conducted at the Ocean's Sparkle Tug Simulator Training Center in India. Standing tall in the face of challenges, Sameeh and Thabit also exhibited their commitment, and perseverance during the Covid-19 pandemic when a substantial number of Khimji's Sparkle Staff were unable to commute between regions due to the imposed movement ban. At this critical juncture, the duo rose to the occasion and took on the task of handling the tug operations independently. This reaffirmed confidence in their on-the-job capabilities. Commenting on this achievement, Pankaj Khimji, Director, Khimji's Sparkle Marine Services said: “We believe that the youth are the building blocks for a bright future for Oman. Our objectives resonate with the national priorities and the goals outlined in Oman Vision 2040 that aim to create a pool of highly skilled Omani talents. We are delighted with what Sameeh and Thabit have accomplished and admire their persistence and hard work. Realizing this dream would not have been possible without the continuous support of our strategic partners, Asyad Dry Dock and Ocean's Sparkle.”



ROUND-UP

OCCI honours Bank Muscat for CSR

The ceremony was attended by a number of their Excellencies as well as senior officials from institutions and corporates in Oman

MUSCAT: In recognition of its pioneering role in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Bank Muscat was recently honoured by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry at a grand event held under the patronage of His Highness Sayyid Kamil bin Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Assistant Secretary General of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister for Cabinet Affairs. The ceremony was attended by a number of their Excellencies as well as senior offi-

cials from institutions and corporates in Oman.

On this occasion, Khalifa Abdullah Al Hatmi, Assistant General Manager – International Branches, Bank Muscat, said: “It is a great honour to receive this accolade, which confirms the bank’s pioneering role in social responsibility and its partnership with the community in Oman. The bank’s activities are aligned to Oman’s development goals, especially the pillar of CSR and Partnership in Oman Vision 2040. We are working tirelessly to serve everyone better, every day, not just in banking, but also in serving the larger community through humanitarian and sustainable initiatives.” Khalifa Al Hatmi pointed out that receiving this honour is a great inspiration to Bank Muscat to continue to launch new programmes and initiatives which will further strengthen co-operation and Public-Private Partnership in the service of the nation and Omani society.

It must be noted that every year, the bank sets aside a portion of its profits for its different CSR and sustainability activities to serve various segments of society in-



cluding the youth and children, people with special needs, social welfare families, entrepreneurs, students and communities across the country. For the past four years, the bank has extended its support to the Fak Kurba initiative launched by the Oman Lawyers Association to help secure the release of those who have been jailed for failing to clear financial obligations. The total number of cases the bank has secured releases in the last four consecutive years has reached 826 cases, including 250 cases in 2021.

Bank Muscat’s landmark Green

Sports programme has supported 143 teams across various governorates in the Sultanate till date. Over 36,900 members from different communities have benefitted from the programme. Till date, 95 teams have received support for installation of artificial turf or natural grass on their fields, while 40 teams have received support for floodlighting and 8 teams for water desalination plants. As a ‘one of its kind’ programme, Green Sports is contributing majorly to developing the sporting skills and talents of Omani youth. Bank Muscat has been encouraged by the tremen-

dous success of the programme in transforming sports infrastructure across the country.

The bank’s Tadamun program, which is organised in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development, has benefitted 1,691 families since it was first launched in 2013. In 2021, the program distributed 790 household appliances to 150 social welfare families across Oman. Earlier this year, the bank also provided laptops and tablets to 1,240 students from low-income families with the aim of supporting the government’s efforts to make online education available for all students in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Meanwhile, the Bank Muscat’s Jesr Al Mustaqbal programme has provided scholarships to a number of young people from social welfare families to pursue their higher education, while its Al Wathbah SME Academy continues to train and equip Omani entrepreneurs with business skills and help them acquire internationally-accredited certification. The bank also spends a lot of effort on building infrastructure and public facilities as part of its emphasis on CSR

and sustainability. Previously, the bank has joined hands with the Ministry of Tourism and Heritage to develop the old village of Misfat al Abriyeen in Al Hamra to boost heritage tourism and preserve the cultural heritage of Oman, while also contributing to the creation of new jobs and allied benefits for the local community. In 2020, the bank also celebrated the completion of the 15,000 square metre Al Khoudh Park project in Seeb, in partnership with Muscat Municipality, which is promoting domestic tourism, physical activities, and also strengthening the local community and society in general. In addition, the bank also works closely with a number of civil society organisations to support and encourage people with special needs.

It must be noted that the bank’s sustainability programmes have been well appreciated by society and has received a number of accolades in the past. Bank Muscat will continue to use every opportunity it gets to channel resources for creating sustainable, positive changes in communities by investing in their welfare.

HIGH-QUALITY FUEL

Fuely by Al Maha powers all race karts at MENA Karting Nations Cup 2021

MUSCAT: Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company has announced its participation as the Silver Sponsor and Official Fuel Supplier of the recently held MENA Karting Nations Cup 2021. The championship, now in its second edition, was hosted by the Oman Automobile Association (OAA). As part of its sponsorship, Al Maha used its newly launched Fuely trucks for the trackside refuelling of all race karts for the duration of the Championship.

Speaking on Al Maha’s sponsorship of the karting championship, the CEO of Al Maha Petroleum, Eng. Hamed Al Mahgdiri commented, “The MENA Karting Nations Cup is the region’s premier karting championship and one that we were pleased to be a part of. By doing so, we had the opportunity to not only support the racing dreams of so many talented racers but also help the country raise its profile as an international destination for sports tourism.”

The championship which kicked off on November 16 at the Muscat Speedway sees over 200 racers from 19 countries partici-



pate in races spanning eight race categories.

The championship took place over the course of five days with the finals taking place on November 20.

The entire championship was aired live on Oman Sports TV. As the official fuel supplier of the event, Al Maha had one of its recently launched ‘Fuely’ on-demand fuel delivery trucks trackside for the duration of the championship.

Eng. Hamed Al Mahgdiri added, “We launched Fuely just under a month ago in order to fill a gap

we saw in the market, offering our services to customers who feel stressed about visiting a station, instead, bringing the fuel to them with our new ‘Fuely’ on-demand fuel delivery service.”

Fuely, is a first-of-its-kind service in Oman, offering customers the convenience of ordering high-quality fuel from Al Maha to be delivered directly to your vehicle while you stay relaxed at home or office.

The service is currently available to customers in Mawaleh South, Al Hail North and South, Mabela, Al Khoud, Ghubrah,

Azaiba, MSQ, Al-Khuwair, and Qurum, with more to come soon. That’s not all, Al Maha also has plans to grow this service beyond just fuel, adding some innovative value-added services as well as extending the service to corporate clients at a later date.

For more information about Fuely, please visit your nearest Al Maha Service Station. You can also visit the Al Maha website on www.almaha.com.om, call 800 188 88, or email cs@almaha.com. You can also follow Al Maha (@AlmahaPetroleum) on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

bima.om offers free life insurance policy

MUSCAT: Bima Insurance Platform-bima.om recently, celebrated its first anniversary as the Oman’s first online insurance portal that provides services of 13 insurance companies in various insurance including Motor insurance service, travel insurance, domestic insurance and credit life insurance.

On this festive occasion, Bima Insurance Platform-bima.om offers a free life insurance policy to every customer who insures his / her vehicle at the platform of Bima Insurance Platform-bima.om till the end of the year.

The customer of bima.om, the largest online insurance portal in Oman also can utilise the advantages of Bima’s Golden Package , which includes roadside assistance and coverage for family members of the car’s passengers in the event of accidents, whether the insurance is comprehensive or a third party insurance , in addition to the super-fast reliable service of the insurance renewal electronically through bima.om in few minutes, in order to provide its customer with complete com-

fort ,without bearing the trouble of moving for getting insurance service .

Said bin Salem Al-Rashidi, CEO and founder of Bima, expressed his extreme pleasure with the great success that the platform has achieved since its inception, and with the great response that Bima has received from its wide base of customers.

Al-Rashdi also expressed his admiration for the spirit of cooperation and teamwork environment enjoyed by Bima’s employees, stressing that, the Omani youth who work hard until twelve o’clock midnight and on weekends are the main pillar of Bima’s great success.

Arwa Al-Mandhari at Bima insurance platform, emphasised that, the success of the bima.om in providing 400,000 electronic services since its launch and insured about 5 per cent of the Sultanate’s private cars in the first year of its inception , is because of the portal’s easy insurance procedures and its competitive prices, while the customer can get various insurance services in one place and in few minutes.

OMAN’S LEADING LIFESTYLE DESTINATION

Al Mouj Muscat wins three awards for customer experience

MUSCAT: Al Mouj Muscat is celebrating the news that it has won three prestigious regional awards recognising the high standards of Customer Experience (CX) present throughout Oman’s leading lifestyle destination.

The Best Voice of Customer (VoC) award in real estate and hospitality, Best Customer Journey Mapping Real Estate & Hospitality and CX Leader of the Year was announced at Customer Experience Live Middle East 2021, a two-day conference for organisations across the Middle East which took place this week at the Meyden Hotel in Dubai.

Featuring 50 keynote speakers who covered all aspects of CX, the event was attended by some 200 senior executives and business leaders including Al Mouj Muscat’s Head of Customer Experience, Hawra Al Lawati who was also invited to take part in a panel discussion on ‘Reimagining CX by

creating hype and excitement’.

Hawra leads a team of 22 CX staff and has been instrumental in ensuring Al Mouj’s approach to putting the customer first at every touch point is organisation-wide and community-related. Commenting on the award, she says: “As a representative of an organisation that wholly embraces the importance of exceptional customer experiences, it is an honour to have accepted this award on Al Mouj’s behalf. “Creating great moments every day is at the heart of everything we do and it is also at the centre of any sustainable approach to improving the customer experience. It is why attending this conference and learning from experts in their field as well as the experiences of other brands and organisations from across our region sits so well with our culture of continual improvement.”

Research carried out this year by CX Live shows that 82% of or-

ganisations believe good CX customer service is the number one differentiator of strong corporate performance and can drive organisational growth.

Also commenting on the new accolade is Nasser Al Sheibani, CEO of Al Mouj Muscat who says: “It really is an honour to have received this award and is an opportunity to celebrate how great customer service is now firmly embedded at the core of our identity.

“At Al Mouj Muscat our 7000 residents live life together and as an organisation we have a collective desire to make truly excellent customer service a reality, at every customer touchpoint, every day. And we’re not just talking about the sales process although the customer journey when it comes to owning a home here at Al Mouj Muscat is one we are particularly proud of. What is just as important are the interactions every member of our community has with another

person every day, for example, the extra mile a security guard goes to help someone in need, the welcome our Community Hub staff give to any one of our 3.9 million annual visitors.

“We also value the support our residents give to each other as it adds to our culture of positivity and a strong sense of community which is why this year, to show our appreciation, we introduced an annual Citizen of the Year award where we recognised two residents who contribute so much to our thriving community.”

A warm and diverse community at the heart of Oman’s capital, Al Mouj Muscat has people from 85 nationalities who now call it home. With a vibrant dining and retail district with 85 outlets, a championship golf course as well as a 400-berth luxury marina, residents and visitors alike are able to enjoy an exclusive lifestyle in a lively oceanfront setting.



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