

Times

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OF OMAN



50

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LEGACY

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GENERAL EDUCATION DIPLOMA

The Honourable Lady congratulates students of GED



MUSCAT: Her Highness the Honourable Lady Assayida Ahd Abdullah Hamed Al Busaidi, Spouse of the Sultan of Oman has addressed a message of congratulations to distinguished students in the General Education Diploma (GED) and those accepted to higher education institutions.

The message reads as follows: “With feelings of joy and delight, we congratulate you, our dear sons and daughters, on your success and excellence in the General Education Diploma. We look forward to this being a key to achieving the honor of acceptance into higher education institutions for the academic year 2025/2026, after you have proven your distinction with utmost merit and capability, and through your diligent pursuit and blessed efforts, you have risen to a distinguished level.

Your achievement would not

have been possible without the grace of Almighty Allah, and then by virtue of the generous care of your parents and the sincere support from the educational staffs in your schools. To them all, we extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation for these efforts.

We assure you, our sons and daughters, of our support for your future pathways and aspirations, whether you choose universities or the fields of work. We always advise you to keep your ambitions high, redouble your efforts, and persevere in acquiring beneficial skills and knowledge that will enable you to contribute effectively to serving your beloved homeland, the Sultanate of Oman.

We pray to the Almighty Allah to bless your efforts, fulfill your hopes, guide you to all good, and surround you with His protection and care at all times.” -ONA

OMAN PLANS FOR MORE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS

Oman Airports in talks with airlines for direct flights to Europe, China and Vietnam



MUSCAT: Oman Airports is making strenuous efforts to attract several international airlines to operate direct flights to the Sultanate of Oman, in addition to boosting revenues and improving operational performance.

Engineer Ahmed Said Al Amri, CEO of Oman Airports, said that the company is currently discussing with the budget airline Wizz Air the possibility of operating direct flights from European airports to Oman, whether via the Hungarian capital, Budapest, or other European cities. He indicated that the company is very serious about launching these routes soon.

He added in a statement to the Oman News Agency: “Oman Airports is working in cooperation with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Sultanate of Oman to attract China Eastern Airlines to operate direct flights to Muscat, either via Shanghai or Guangzhou.”

He stressed that “Oman Airports” is making efforts to launch these flights and is offering them many incentive and promotional packages. >A3

REGULATORY GUIDANCE

Oman Air enhances fuel switch checks on its Boeing fleet

RAHUL DAS
rahuldas@timesofoman.com

MUSCAT: National carrier Oman Air confirmed that it has carried out precautionary checks on the fuel switch mechanisms on its Boeing 787 and 737 fleet.

Confirming this in an exclusive interview with Times of Oman, Captain Nasser Al Salmi, Chief Operating Officer of Oman Air, said, “In line with regulatory guidance, we have conducted extra fuel switch checks on all of our Boeing 787 and 737 aircraft as a precautionary measure and as part of our ongoing commitment to the highest safety standards.”

Oman Air has eight Boeing 787 aircraft and 23 Boeing 737 aircraft. While Boeing and the United States Federal Aviation Administration have affirmed the safety of the fuel switch locks, several



EXCLUSIVE

airlines – including Oman Air, Etihad and Singapore Airlines – have opted to take additional precautionary steps in the interest of operational assurance and safety continuity.

India's civil aviation regulator has issued a directive for airlines to conduct precautionary inspections of the fuel switch locking

mechanisms on all Boeing 787 and 737 aircraft by July 21. This directive comes in the wake of a recent technical review and supports the industry's focus on continuous safety enhancement.

Last week, Etihad, the second-largest airline in the United Arab Emirates, urged all its pilots to check the fuel switches on 787 aircraft in its fleet.

India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau's (AAIB) preliminary report, released recently, said the fuel control switches were found in the “cutoff” position, triggering a global debate over whether pilot action or mechanical failure caused India's worst single-aircraft aviation disaster.

Fuel switches are crucial components in the heart of an aircraft's cockpit that control the flow of fuel to the engines.

>A3

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Real estate deals exceed OMR1.1bn

1 The total value of real estate transactions in the Sultanate of Oman fell by 10 percent reaching OMR1.11 billion by the end of May 2025 compared to OMR 1.23 billion during the same period in 2024. >A2



OMAN Sports Spark 2025 kicks off at OCEC

2 The Governorate of Muscat is hosting the Sports Spark event, which began on 18 July and will continue until 16 August, under the strategic sponsorship of the OCEC, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth. >A4

MARKET Oman's natural gas production rises

3 Natural gas production in Oman, including local production and imports, grew by 0.3 percent reaching 22.71 billion cubic metres by the end of May 2025 compared to 22.65 billion cubic metres during the same period in 2024. >B1



Russia launches more than 300 airstrikes on Ukraine

A7

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Mobile service subscriptions in Oman exceed 8mn by end of May

NCSI data further indicated that active postpaid mobile phone subscriptions increased by 5.6 percent, reaching 1.23 million subscriptions by the end of May 2025

MUSCAT: The latest statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) show a significant growth in Oman's telecommunications sector, driven by the expansion of

digital services and increased reliance on smart solutions.

Statistics indicated that active postpaid mobile phone subscriptions increased by 5.6 percent, reaching 1.23 million subscriptions by the end of May 2025 compared to the same period in 2024. Active prepaid mobile phone subscriptions also recorded a growth of 3.1 percent, reaching 5.33 million subscriptions, while Internet of Things (IoT) subscriptions achieved exceptional growth of 118.7 percent, reaching 1.55 million subscriptions by the end of May 2025.

Statistics show that the total number of mobile service subscriptions in the Sultanate of Oman reached 8.13 million by the end of May 2025 registering a 15.2 percent increase compared to the end of May 2024. Meanwhile, the total number of active mobile broadband Internet subscriptions reached 5.41 million by the end of May 2025.

Statistics further show that the

number of active subscriptions to fixed broadband Internet services increased by 2.6 percent to reach 588,015 by the end of May 2025, compared to the same period in 2024.

Fibre optic services

Regarding fibre optic services, the subscriptions witnessed an 11.4 percent increase reaching 339,279. Fixed 5G subscriptions also increased by 2.1 percent reaching 215,850 by the end of May 2025, while fixed 4G subscriptions declined by 38.1 percent reaching 19,654 subscriptions.

Digital subscriber line subscriptions also decreased by 50.8 percent to 11,806 and satellite subscriptions decreased by 2.1 percent to 653.

Other subscriptions—which include Internet via power lines, Ethernet, and leased Internet lines—also declined by 12 percent reaching 773 subscriptions by the end of May 2025, compared to the same period last year. - ONA



Dhofar Governorate

Al Mazunah Free Zone attracts investments worth over OMR140mn

SALALAH: The total investment volume in Al Mazunah Free Zone in Dhofar Governorate has reached OMR140.17 million. This follows the attracting eight diverse projects valued at OMR165,000 over the past period, which will span an area estimated at 5,405.88 square metres.

Eng. Ahmed Khamis Al Kasbi, Director General of Al Mazunah Free Zone, told Oman News Agency (ONA) that 172 lease contracts have been signed in the zone, distributed across industrial, service, and commercial activities. The zone's management is actively seeking to attract investments in the industrial sector to ensure the sustainability of investment movement.

He clarified that the zone is currently finalising preparations for the operation of the animal quarantine facility in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Water Resources, with trial operations expected to begin in the third quarter of 2025. Simultaneously, 70% of the water desalination plant project has been completed, with full operation anticipated in the fourth quarter of this year, aiming to enhance the zone's infrastructure.

Al Kasbi noted that during the first half of 2025 (January to June), the free zone received over 137,000 tonnes of various goods, marking an approximately 21 percent increase compared to



the same period last year, which saw over 113,000 tonnes. Concurrently, the number of vehicles entering and exiting the free zone surged by 31%, reaching 2,921 vehicles, up from 2,223 last year.

He added that the zone has issued a tender announcement for a duty-free market management and operation project to specialised companies. This initiative aims to activate direct sales and provide services for travelers crossing the border between the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Yemen.

It is noteworthy that Oman is striving to enhance the competitiveness of its free zones at the regional level and attract more local and international investment. This is to stimulate economic growth, expand the productive base, deepen investment in sectors with global added value, strengthen the contribution of non-oil sectors to the GDP, and affirm Oman Vision 2040's economic objectives.

NCSI DATA

Traded value of real estate deals in Oman hits OMR1.11bn by May 2025

MUSCAT: The total value of real estate transactions in the Sultanate of Oman fell by 10 percent reaching OMR1.11 billion by the end of May 2025 compared to OMR 1.23 billion during the same period in 2024.

Data released by the National Centre for Statistics (NCSI) and Information showed a 13.5 percent increase in fees collected for all legal transactions, reaching OMR 30.9 million, compared to OMR 27.2 million during the same period last year.

Value of sales contracts

The traded value of sales contracts also increased by 17.3 percent to reach OMR536.3 million by the end of May 2025 compared to OMR457.2 million during the same period in 2024.

In contrast, the number of sales contracts decreased by 2.6 percent to 27,302 compared to 28,023 during the same period last year.

On the other hand, the traded value of mortgage contracts decreased by 26.1 percent reaching approximately OMR572.70 million for 9,140 contracts compared to OMR774.50 million for 8,596 contracts by the end of May 2024.

Swap contracts

As for swap contracts, they also witnessed a decline, with 538 contracts traded worth OMR4.6 million by the end of May 2025 compared to 583 contracts worth OMR5.2 million during the same period in 2024.

The number of real estate properties issued witnessed a slight increase of 0.2 percent, reach-



ing 94,414 properties by the end of May 2025 compared to 94,194 properties during the same period in 2024. The number of properties

issued to citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries saw a substantial increase by 24.4 percent reaching 657 properties by

the end of May 2025 compared to 528 properties by the end of May 2024.

- ONA

REMARKABLE PROGRESS

Oman gets positive rating in tax transparency, information

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has been rated as "largely compliant" with international standards in the field of transparency and exchange of tax information.

This positive outlook reflects the remarkable progress Oman has made in enhancing the transparency of its tax system.

The assessment made by the jurisdiction party was based on a comprehensive review of the Sultanate of Oman's compliance with transparency requirements and the exchange of tax information upon request, in accordance with the standards set by the global forum of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), as regards transparency and exchange of information.

The assessment process included a field visit made to the Sultanate of Oman by a team of international assessors, in September 2024. The team conferred with experts from the Tax Authority and government de-



partments concerned to assess Oman's transparency and draft a report on Oman's status.

This high ranking reflects Oman's ongoing commitment to establish the principles of transparency and governance and enhance international confidence in the country's tax system. Oman's commitment to global standards also helps combat tax evasion and

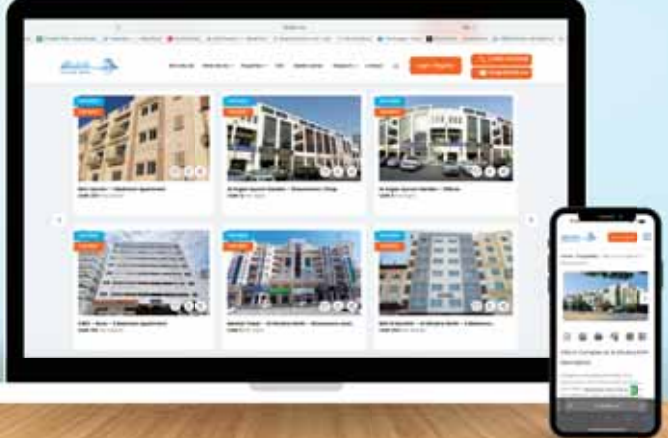
support joint international efforts in financial and tax areas.

To consolidate transparency and investment competitiveness, the Tax Authority continues to adopt the best international practices and apply globally approved standards, given the fact that unifying international tax practices cuts down the cost of tax compliance for investors. - ONA



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COMMENTARY

Oman streamlines business governance with key amendments to commercial companies regulations



DR. MOHAMMED IBRAHIM AL ZADJALI
Founding partner of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm

In a significant move to enhance Oman's business regulatory environment, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion (MOCIIP) has enacted Ministerial Decision 245/2025, amending pivotal provisions within the existing Commercial Companies Regulation (Ministerial Decision 146/2021). These amendments,



effective from 11 July 2025, target specific operational and administrative requirements for companies operating within the Sultanate, aiming to reduce bureaucratic hurdles and clarify governance structures. Speaking exclusively to the Times of Oman, a representative of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm, a leading law office in Oman, explained that "the first major amendment overhauls the procedure for appointing external company managers in

Limited Liability Companies (LLCs). Previously, Article 92 mandated that applications to appoint a non-partner manager, particularly if the manager was non-Omani, required not only the manager's written approval but also written consent from their current employer. The written consent requirement from the Employer has been eliminated entirely." The revised Article 92 now states that "the appointment may be registered through the Min-

istry's electronic system based solely on the written approval of the appointed manager." In practice, this reflects a shift in procedure: since the employer is the one initiating the appointment, separate employer consent is now deemed inherent and no longer needs to be uploaded as a standalone document. "This procedural refinement removes redundant documentation and enables LLCs to appoint managerial talent—both Omani and expatriate—with greater efficiency, while still preserving necessary employer oversight through the system itself," said Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Zadjali, the Founding Partner of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm. He further added that a completely new provision, Article 13bis, has been introduced to explicitly define the scope of individuals authorised to legally represent a company as its "authorised signatory." This crucial addition clarifies that valid signatories must fall into one of

four defined categories: partners collectively or individually; the owner of the company's capital; any member of its board of directors; or its manager or any of its financial and administrative workers. "This definition provides much needed certainty regarding corporate representation, reducing ambiguity in contractual and legal dealings. It ensures that only individuals with a demonstrable stake or formal role within the company structure possess the inherent authority to bind the company, thereby enhancing transactional security and mitigating risks associated with unauthorised representations." Companies subject to the Commercial Companies Regulation are granted a six-month transitional period to align their internal structures and documentation particularly manager appointment records and authorised signatory designations with these updated requirements.

Failure to comply after this deadline could expose companies to administrative penalties or challenges regarding the validity of managerial appointments or contractual signatures. These changes underscore Oman's proactive approach to improving its regulatory framework to support business growth and investment, the expert said. (Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm (info@mohammedibrahim.net), (+968 244 87 600) was established 18 years ago and is serving clients through its offices in Muscat and Sohar, as well as operating on a request basis in other areas. It offers legal representation across a wide range of practice areas that include Labour Law, Corporate, Commercial, Contracts, Banking and Finance, International Trade, Foreign Investment, Insurance, Maritime Law, Construction and Engineering Contracts, International Arbitration, Intellectual Property and more).

CEO OF OMAN AIRPORTS

Salalah Airport sees significant increase in passenger arrivals

He explained that work is currently underway with LOT Polish Airlines to operate direct flights between Muscat and Warsaw, and that the Civil Aviation Authority is in contact with its Polish counterpart to officially open this route.

The CEO of Oman Airports also indicated that the commercial team, in cooperation with Oman Air, is studying the Vietnamese market and examining its potential and advantages. Regarding passenger and airline traffic to Salalah Airport, he confirmed that this year has seen a significant increase in arrivals, both during the autumn season via local flights and direct flights from GCC countries, and during the winter season, which attracts direct flights from Scandinavia and Belarus.

Regarding Muscat International Airport, he explained that the number of passengers travelling to the airport is constantly increasing compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is some decline in the number of transfer passengers due to Oman Air reducing the number of flights and its fleet. Engineer Ahmed Said Al Amri pointed out that the agreement signed by Oman Airports with Changi International Airport in Singapore to boost commercial



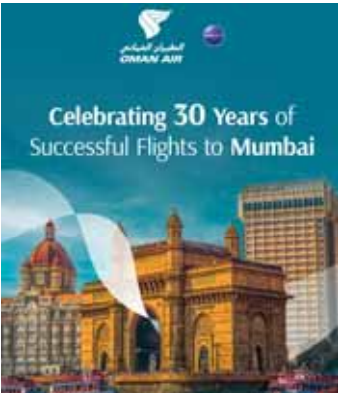
and aviation revenues at Oman's airports will provide an opportunity to review all revenues, including aircraft parking rents and the use of hoses at Oman's airports. He also noted that a memorandum of understanding was signed with a Malaysian company to explore development and investment opportunities for lands within the Muscat International Airport. —ONA

NEW MILESTONE

Oman Air marks proudly 30 years of service to Mumbai

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman Air, the national carrier of the Sultanate of Oman, proudly marks 30 years of operations between Muscat and Mumbai. The second Indian destination to be introduced after Thiruvananthapuram in 1993, Mumbai has since grown into a cornerstone of the airline's network with 12 flights per week. Over the last three decades Oman Air has significantly expanded its footprint across India, strengthening air links that support business, tourism, and community ties between the two countries. Currently, the airline operates 168 flights per week between Muscat and 10 cities including Mumbai, Delhi, Lucknow, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, Calicut and Goa. Speaking on the occasion, Sunil V.A., Regional Vice President for the Indian Subcontinent at Oman Air, said: "This anniversary is more than a celebration of flights, it's a celebration of friendship and trust. India has been one of our most important markets, and Mumbai holds a special place in our network. As we continue to



evolve as a premium global carrier and a proud oneworld member, we remain committed to elevating our relationship with India and offering exceptional, world-class travel experiences to our guests." The milestone comes at an exciting time for Oman Air with its recent entry into the oneworld® alliance. With access to a network of over 900 destinations worldwide, the airline is now better positioned than ever to offer its Indian guests' greater global connectivity, streamlined travel benefits, and enhanced service. Meanwhile, Oman Air, which

recently won Best Food & Beverage and Best Cabin Service in the Middle East at the Apex 2025 Awards, continues to deliver a guest-centric journey that blends authentic Omani hospitality with world-class service standards. Oman Air (WY) began operations in 1993. Initially founded to serve important domestic routes, it has since undergone rapid growth and is today recognised as a major international carrier connecting cities around the world to Oman's stunning nature, rich heritage and welcoming culture. The award-winning airline has been instrumental in transforming Muscat into one of the Middle East's most desirable travel destinations, while supporting adjacent commercial, industrial and tourism activities. With a young and modern fleet including, among others, fuel-efficient Boeing 737 and 787 Dreamliner aircraft, which feature luxuriously appointed interiors, Oman Air is renowned for its exceptional products and services, both in the air and on the ground, and for the signature Omani hospitality it offers to every guest throughout their journey.

AVIATION

Boeing 787 has one switch for each engine

The twin-engine Boeing 787, which crashed in Ahmedabad, has one switch for each engine. The switches sit underneath the throttle handles in the cockpit's centre

console, positioned where pilots' hands naturally rest during critical flight phases. Physical brackets guard each switch on both sides, making it

impossible to accidentally brush against them. A spring-loaded mechanism requires pilots to pull each switch upward against resistance before it can be moved.

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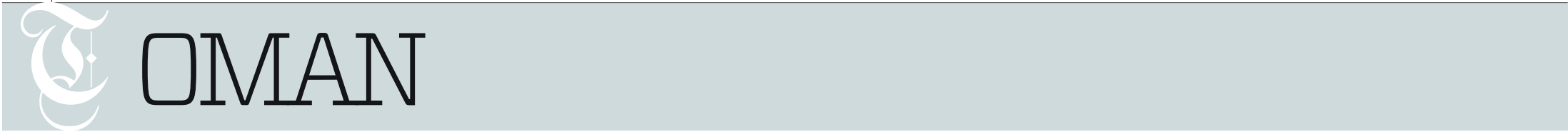
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Muscat governorate inaugurates Sports Spark 2025 at OCEC

The event aims to promote summer sports among all community members and groups by offering offering various programmes and activities for children, youth and families

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Governorate of Muscat is hosting the Sports Spark event, which began from 18 July and will run until 16 August, under the strategic sponsorship of the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre (OCEC), the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth and several institutions and private sector entities.

The Sports Spark event kicked off on Thursday at Halls 1 and 2 of the OCEC, features various events, sporting activities and entertainment competitions.

The opening ceremony was sponsored by Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Humaidi, Head of Muscat Municipality, and attended by several officials and stakeholders. As well as several guests from various government and private sectors, media professionals and journalists from various media outlets.

This event aims to promote benefiting from summer sports for all community members and groups, through offering various programmes and activities for children, youth and families. Thus enriching the experience and enhancing sporting entertainment in Muscat Governorate. This event reflects the governorate's efforts to develop the sports entertainment sector through effective partnership with private sector and utilising their expertise in event man-



agement and the entertainment industry.

This event promotes health and physical fitness, serves as a gathering place for families and athletes. As well as a platform to identify innovations in sports, through a diverse of various activities and initiatives that fulfil the aspirations of the public and support community spirit.

The previous edition of the Sports Spark attracted more than 30,000 participants. This year's edition, 2025, offers a unique experience in Oman through an indoor

sports programme that includes more than 20 various sports, including football, basketball, volleyball and badminton. Besides, two new sports this year - indoor golf and hockey.

This year's events promise various programmes, including a new collaboration with Muscat Marathon to launch the Muscat Night Run on August 1, offering a unique night running experience with 2.5km and 5km routes. Vigital E-Gaming competitions are also heading back for their second season, accompanied by the upcoming

FIFA E-Gaming Championship supported by the Oman Electronic Gaming Commission (OEC).

For football fans, the inaugural edition of the Football Academies Cup is an indoor youth tournament involving 32 teams, including 10 provincial academies, to highlight rising local talents. This year also marks the inauguration of the "Obstacle Series Race", an innovative local event, providing an enthusiastic thrilling and challenging experience. There will also be numerous tournaments and competitions in collaboration



with local sports federations and institutions.

Children's summer camp

The event consists of children's summer camp that allows families to register their children to benefit from enjoyable and instructive sports and educational programmes. Additionally, it inspires organisations and companies to take advantage of special packages that aim to promote mental and physical health and teamwork for their employees.

Ibrahim bin Said Al Hasani, Assistant Manager at the Department of Communication and Media, confirmed the importance of this event that Muscat Governorate organises during the summer period after a successful event achieved last year. The event utilises the energies of youth and young people and guide them to practice activities and sports that enhance physical and mental abilities, providing positive social communication to develop abilities, and creating an outlet for useful experiences in the company of a group of trainers and players under one integrated umbrella. The experiment increases annually through new activities and programmes that target various age groups.

Muscat Governorate, with its administrative and service system, works to establish healthy cities that facilitate practicing physical and health activities and improve the quality of life for citizens and residents through establishing facilities and services that meet

these requirements and aspirations. For example, constructing healthy walkways, various sports fields, and providing physical activity equipment near beaches and within parks and gardens. The efforts to organise such events are continuous and developed to maintain Muscat as a sustainable and vibrant city that promotes individuals and the community's health.

Commenting on the launch of the third edition of the event, Engineer Saeed bin Salem Al Shanfari, CEO of the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, thanked the success partners - Muscat Governorate, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, Omran Group and SABCO Sport - while acknowledging the support and sponsorship of Sohar International Bank.

He emphasised that this support is key to the development of Sport-Spark 2025 as a truly inclusive community event, with a focus this year on promoting inclusivity and affordability, allowing individuals, families and youth from all walks of life to exercise and enjoy sports in an environment that welcomes everyone, regardless of age or ability.

Sports Spark is open daily from 8am to 11pm and will run until 16 August in Halls 1 and 2 at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. For bookings, registration and more information, please visit the event's official website [www.sportsparkom.com] or follow @sportsparkom on social media.

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Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

إعلان مناقصة

Tender Notice

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

Tender Number	Tender Name	Date of Publishing	Last date to Purchase Tender Document	Submission Date	Companies who should participate in this Tender	Document Price
123/2025 MTCIT	UPGRADING OF ROADS AT WILAYAT AL JABAL AL AKHDAR (DAKHILIYAH GOVERNORATE)	17-7-2025	4-8-2025	31-8-2025	Experienced companies and registered with Secretariat General of Tender board (First & Second class)	Two (270/-) hundred and seventy Omani Rials (Local, Regional) (27/-) Twenty Seven Omani Rial For Sme Non-Refundable

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CORRESPONDANCE:

1. Tender Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the TENDER Inquiry must be online at e-Tendering System (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)

2. E-Tendering System Inquiry: All correspondence pertaining to the e-Tendering System technical support must be directed to the following helpdesk email address and phone number:

Tel: +968 24402200 e-mail: etenderhd@mtcit.gov.om

@mtcitoman

www.mtcit.gov.om

Internal Tenders Committee

Invitation to Attend the Ordinary General Meeting of Meethaq Equity Fund

The Fund Management Body of Meethaq Equity Fund (the "Fund") has the pleasure in inviting the unitholders to the Ordinary General Meeting ("OGM") to be held on Wednesday, 6 August 2025, at 3:30 pm., at Bank Muscat headquarters, Airport Heights, Muscat Hall, Seeb, Sultanate of Oman.

Failing quorum, the OGM shall be reconvened on Tuesday, 12 August 2025, at 3:30 pm, at Bank Muscat headquarters, Airport Heights, Muscat Hall, Seeb, Sultanate of Oman, to discuss and consider the following agenda:

- To elect the new members of the Fund Management. Any person who wishes to nominate himself/herself for the position should complete the nomination form. The completed forms should be sent to the Fund secretary email Ahmedhass@bankmuscat.com at least five days prior to the OGM date by the end of the business day, on Thursday, 31 July 2025. The candidate should observe the conditions required for the membership of the Fund's Management.

In accordance with the Fund's Articles of Association, every unitholder has the right to appoint any other person in writing as his proxy to attend the meeting and vote on his behalf, by way of a proxy card attached to the notice. Any such natural person should attach to the proxy card a copy of their ID for adults, their passport for minors or those who do not have a civil card or resident card, and resident card or passport for non-Omanis. For corporates, the proxy form shall be signed by one of the authorized signatories and sealed by the company's stamp accompanied with copies of the commercial registration certificate, ID cards, resident cards, and passports of the authorized signatories and the representative of the corporate entity.

The respected unitholder is requested to attend at the OGM venue half an hour before the meeting.

For queries please contact Mr. Ahmed Hassan Al Nabhani, on telephone: (+968) 24801078.

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EMPOWERING OMANI YOUTH

Youth Centre signs pacts to support freelancing, professional photography

MUSCAT: The Youth Centre on Thursday signed two cooperation agreements with Oman Oil Marketing Company and Nikon, as part of its efforts to empower Omani youth and support their skills in various fields.

Basil Ahmed Al Rowas, Under-secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth for Sports and Youth, signed the agreements on behalf of the Youth Centre.

The first agreement, between the Youth Centre and Oman Oil Marketing Company, aims to implement the third edition of the “Tamakkun” freelance program. This program targets empowering 200 young men and women engaged in independent freelancing from September to December 2025, by providing them with the skills and tools necessary to transform their abilities into sustainable income sources.



The second agreement, forged in partnership with Nikon, seeks to support young people in professional photography through advanced training programs. It also includes equipping photography and sound studios at the Youth Centre, thereby contributing to the development of a creative and skilled environment for Omani youth. — ONA



PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA

His Majesty sends cable of congratulations

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulation to President Gustavo Petro of the Republic of Colombia on his country's Independence Day anniversary.

In his cable, His Majesty the Sul-

tan expressed his sincere greetings and wishes to the president and his country's people, wishing the Colombia continued stability and growth and for the cooperation and friendship relations further progress and prosperity. — ONA

DHOFAR BUILDING FIRE

CDAA teams rescue 8 people

MUSCAT: The firefighting teams from the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority (CDAA) in Dhofar Governorate responded to a report of a fire breaking out in a residential apartment in the Southern Awqad area of Salalah and rescued eight persons.

The teams successfully controlled the fire and rescued eight individuals, who are in good health.



Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

1. The Ministry of Defence invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in The following tender:

Subject	Tender Number	Last date for Inquiries	Last date to submit the Tender	Tender Documnet Price
Supply of disposable items blanket purchase agreement for the of three years for armed forces hospital & all medical centre	24/2025	18/08/2025	25/08/2025	1500 OMR

2. Tenders terms and documents may be obtained through **MOD TABSEET e-Services portal** at the following link:
<https://eservices.tabseet.gov.om>

3. Tender fees must be paid electronically via the aforementioned portal for each respective tender.

4. Bids must be submitted electronically through **TABSEET portal** in accordance with instructions provided.

5. For further information or inquiries, kindly contact us via **email: modit.pur@mod.gov.om** or **via call center: 24300038**.

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Invitation to Attend the Ordinary General Meeting of Bank Muscat Al Tharwa Fund

The Fund Management Body of Bank Muscat Al Tharwa Fund (the “Fund”) has the pleasure in inviting the unitholders to the Ordinary General Meeting (“OGM”) to be held on Wednesday, 6 August 2025, at 3:00 p.m., at Bank Muscat headquarters, Airport Heights, Muscat Hall, Seeb, Sultanate of Oman.

Failing quorum, the OGM shall be reconvened on Tuesday, 12 August 2025, at 3:00 p.m., at Bank Muscat headquarters, Airport Heights, Muscat Hall, Seeb, Sultanate of Oman, to discuss and consider the following agenda:

1. To elect the new members of the Fund Management. Any person who wishes to nominate himself/herself for the position should complete the nomination form. The completed forms should be sent to the Fund secretary email ahmedhass@bankmuscat.com at least five days prior to the OGM date by the end of the business day, on Thursday, 31 July 2025. The candidate should observe the conditions required for the membership of the Fund's Management.

In accordance with the Fund's Articles of Association, every unitholder has the right to appoint any other person in writing as his proxy to attend the meeting and vote on his behalf, by way of a proxy card attached to the notice. Any such natural person should attach to the proxy card a copy of their ID for adults, their passport for minors or those who do not have a civil card or resident card, and resident card or passport for non-Omanis. For corporates, the proxy form shall be signed by one of the authorized signatories and sealed by the company's stamp accompanied with copies of the commercial registration certificate, ID cards, resident cards, and passports of the authorized signatories and the representative of the corporate entity.

The respected unitholder is requested to attend at the OGM venue half an hour before the meeting.

For queries please contact Mr. Ahmed Hassan Ahmed Al Nabhani, on telephone: (+968) 24801078.

CR No. 1/14573/8



Sultanate of Oman سلطنة عُمان

وزارة التراث والسياحة

Ministry of Heritage and Tourism

Ministry of Heritage and Tourism

Announcement of an Internal tenders

Tender No.	98/2025/MHT/HQ-20	Tender Name	Implementation of the Al-Hajar Geopark Visitor Center and protection of three geological Heritage sites in a Al Jabal Al Akhdar.
Fees of Tender Documents (Non-refundable)	25 O.R		
	37.500 O.R		
Tender Document Sales End Date	9/6/2025		
Last Date for Bid Submission	2/7/2025		
Grade	Second & Third		
E-Tendering Portal	https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om		
• Interested Companies registered with Tender Board (in the mentioned Grade) may obtain Tender documents from the E.Tendering website: https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om , against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of documents.			
• The Tenderers must acknowledge commitment to the bid.			
• The Ministry shall not be obligated to accept the lowest or any other bids			
• The bid submission period starts after the end of the inquiry period shown in the e-tendering system, until the last date for submitting bids before (10:00 am, Oman time).			
Support and inquiries	For more information, related to the tender, kindly communicate through the website of the e-tendering system: https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om		
	For inquiries related to the technical support for the e-tendering system, kindly communicate through etenderhd@mtcit.gov.om or 24402200		
For further information	Email : sotic@mht.gov.om Phones : 22088348 - 22088085		

AI accident: US body says media reports ‘premature’

India’s Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, which is investigating the accident, had released a preliminary report last week which raised questions about the engine fuel cutoff switches



the engine fuel cutoff switches. Since the report came out, there have been several media reports speculating over the cause of the crash in Indian and Western media, pointing to a possible pilot error. The report itself has been condemned for not providing enough information.

What did the US agency say about the Air India crash report?

The NTSB is an investigative agency that investigates civil transportation accidents.

“Recent media reports on the Air India 171 crash are premature and speculative. India’s Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau just released its preliminary report. Investigations of this magnitude take time,” NTSB Chair

Jennifer Homendy said in a statement shared on X.

According to the AAIB report, in the blackbox voice recording, “one of the pilots is heard asking the other why did he cutoff,” and the other pilot “responded that he did not do so.”

First officer Clive Kunder was believed to be flying the plane while Captain Sumeet Sabharwal was monitoring, hence it has been assumed that his hands were free to toggle with the fuel switch.

The switches were restored 10 seconds later but the plane crashed, having already lost thrust. The report did not clarify what caused the engine fuel to cut off.

How has media reported on the cause of the crash?

Some media reports and aviation

experts have speculated that Sabharwal could have been suicidal and intentionally switched off the fuel.

The AAIB had condemned western media reports for being “irresponsible” and drawing conclusions “through selective and unverified reporting,” Times of India reported.

The Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP) sent legal notices to the Wall Street Journal and Reuters, saying the findings were “neither substantiated by the official investigation nor endorsed by any competent authority,” newspaper The New Indian Express said.

India’s Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu urged the press and people not to “jump to conclusions” and wait for the final report. -bw



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AFGHAN MIGRANTS

UN urges to halt Afghan deportations

GENEVA: The United Nations has raised alarm over the deportation of over 1.9 million Afghan migrants from Iran and Pakistan in the past seven months, urging an immediate halt to forced and unsafe returns, Khaama Press reported.

Volker Turk, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, stated on Friday, July 18, that more than 1.5 million people were returned from Iran, while over 300,000 were expelled from Pakistan.

Serious risks

He warned that “many of those being deported face serious risks of abuse, torture, or arbitrary detention in Afghanistan and should not be forcibly returned,” according to Khaama Press.

The High Commissioner emphasized the importance of adhering to international legal standards in all return processes. “Returns must be voluntary, safe, dignified, and in line with international law,” Turk said.

Khaama Press reported that Turk described the situation in Afghanistan as a severe humanitarian and human rights crisis. He highlighted that returnees—whether forced or voluntary—face “discrimination, violence, economic hardship, and lack of employment opportunities.”

He further stressed that certain groups are at heightened risk. “Women, girls, journalists, and former government employees are particularly vulnerable and under serious threat in Afghanistan,” Turk stated. -ANI

IN QATAR

Congo-M23 militants sign ceasefire deal

DOHA: Representatives from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Rwanda-backed M23 militia signed a provisional ceasefire in Qatar on Saturday, committing both sides to signing a permanent truce and a comprehensive peace agreement no later than August 18.

“This marks a major milestone in the ongoing efforts to achieve lasting peace, security and stability in eastern DRC and the wider Great Lakes region,” said African Union (AU) Chair Mahmoud Ali Yousof in a statement.

Saturday’s “agreement to principles” deal aligns with a peace deal

that both sides signed in Washington on June 27.

Mineral-rich east

Congo’s mineral-rich east has seen decades of fighting with M23 emerging as the most prominent of some 100 or so armed groups operating in the region. -bw

LOS ANGELES

Deadly explosion rocks LA law enforcement facility

LOS ANGELES: Three deputies were killed Friday in an explosion at a law enforcement training facility in Los Angeles, Sheriff Robert Luna said.

“This is, unfortunately, the largest loss of life for us as the LA County Sheriff’s Department, since 1857,” Luna added.

The explosion occurred in the parking lot of the Special Enforcement Bureau at the Biscailuz Center Academy Training Facility, an equivalent of what is commonly known as a SWAT team.

Authorities were investigating the cause of the explosion, but it could take several weeks.

The Los Angeles Times quoted sources who said a bomb squad was moving explosives when the blast occurred.

FBI, arson investigators and LAPD bomb squad deployed

US Attorney General Pam Bondi said federal agents had been deployed to the site of what she called a “horrific incident.”

Homicide detectives were on the scene, as well as agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Los Angeles Police Department bomb squad and the



federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Sheriff Luna says that three members assigned to the department’s “arson explosive detail” died in the explosion.

“They have years of training,” he said. “They are fantastic experts and, unfortunately, I lost three of them today.”

It is not clear what the deputies were doing at the time of the explosion. A possible training accident was an early focus of the investigation, according to a law enforcement official who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to discuss the matter publicly. -bw

BREAKTHROUGH

‘Israel, Syria have agreed to ceasefire’

WASHINGTON: In a major diplomatic breakthrough, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa have agreed to a ceasefire, US Ambassador to Turkey, Tom Barrack, said on Saturday.

The announcement also included a call for unity among Syria’s diverse communities to support the peace initiative. “We call upon Druze, Bedouins, and Sunnis to put down their weapons and together with other minorities build a new and united Syrian identity in peace and prosperity with its neighbors,” Barrack added.

The ceasefire follows Israeli airstrikes on Syria on Wednesday, which Israel said were carried out to protect the Druze, a minority Arab religious group. Clashes between pro-government forces and Druze factions have left dozens dead since the ouster of longtime Syrian ruler Bashar al-Assad, CNN reported. -ANI

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(PRT) - Educators having B.Ed. and Bachelor/Master Degree with minimum 3 years of teaching experience in the following subjects: English, Mathematics and Social Science.

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Educators for co-scholastic subjects (Fine Arts and Dance) with required qualification (Bachelor/Master Degree and any additional Diploma) from the recognized institutions or universities and minimum 3 years of teaching experience.

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CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE DAMAGED

Russia hits Odesa, Sumy in drone and missile attacks

MOSCOW: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Saturday said that Russian forces had fired some 300 drones and 30 missiles overnight.

The tirade killed one person in the port city of Odesa and damaged critical infrastructure in the northeastern city of Sumy.

Zelenskyy posted a video and pictures of flaming buildings and firefighters to his Telegram account , writing that the attacks in Sumy had knocked out power to thousands of homes in the region.

The mayor of Odesa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, said a high-rise in the city had been engulfed in flames and that emergency services and firefighters were battling fires and searching



for injured citizens.

“Odesa was attacked by enemy strike drones — more than 20 UAVs approached the city from different directions,” wrote Odesa Mayor Gennadiy Trukhanov on Telegram.

“Civilian infrastructure was damaged as a result of the attack. A residential high-rise building is on fire,” added the mayor.

Russia’s Defence Ministry on

Saturday said it had successfully downed 87 Ukrainian drones over central, western and southern parts of the country, with 48 downed near the Ukrainian border in Bryansk.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin also said that air defenses had down 13 drones headed for the capital had been downed after midnight. Sobyenin said that specialists were examining fragments where they hit the ground.

Australia delivering Abrams tanks to Ukraine

Australia’s government has said it is in the process of delivering 49 US-made Abrams M1A1 tanks to Ukraine.

The tanks, worth \$160 million (€138 million), are part of a \$980

million Australian military aid package for Kyiv.

Ukraine has already received a number of the tanks with the rest scheduled to arrive over the coming months.

Australian Defence Minister Richard Marles said, “The M1A1 Abrams tanks will make a significant contribution to Ukraine’s ongoing fight against Russia’s illegal and immoral invasion.”

Australia is one of Ukraine’s biggest non-NATO supporters, supplying aid, ammunition and military equipment. Canberra has also banned the export of all alumina and aluminum ore — including bauxite — to Russia, as well as sanctioning some 1,000 Russian individuals and entities. -nw

Trump sues Wall Street Journal and Murdoch over Epstein report

The lawsuit by Trump seeks at least \$20 billion, and Trump has denied writing the note



WASHINGTON DC : US President Donald Trump on Saturday filed a libel lawsuit against the publisher of the Wall Street Journal and reporters who wrote a story about a collection of letters gifted to Jeffrey Epstein for his 50th birthday in 2003, including a note bearing Trump’s name

The lawsuit seeks at least USD 20 billion, and Trump has denied writing the note, CNN reported.

In a post on Truth Social, he said, “BREAKING NEWS: We have just filed a POWERHOUSE Lawsuit against everyone involved in publishing the false, malicious, defamatory, FAKE NEWS ‘article’ in the useless ‘rag’ that is, The Wall Street Journal. This historic legal action is being brought against the so-called authors of this defamatory, the now fully disgraced WSJ, as well as its corporate owners and affiliates, with Rupert Murdoch and Robert Thomson (whatever his role is!) at the top of the list. We have proudly held to account ABC and George Slopodopoulos, CBS and 60 Minutes, The Fake Pu-

litzer Prizes, and many others who deal in, and push, disgusting LIES, and even FRAUD, to the American People.”

“This lawsuit is filed not only on behalf of your favourite President, ME, but also in order to continue standing up for ALL Americans who will no longer tolerate the abusive wrongdoings of the Fake News Media. I hope Rupert and his “friends” are looking forward to the many hours of depositions and testimonies they will have to provide in this case. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We will, MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!” he added.

In the 18-page filing, Trump’s legal team accuses the Journal’s par-

ent company of engaging in “glaring failures in journalistic ethics and standards of accurate reporting.” The filing notes that the Journal, in its story, did not publish the drawing or the letter that its reporters allege Trump authored.

“The reason for those failures is because no authentic letter or drawing exists,” Trump’s lawyer wrote in the lawsuit, which was filed in a federal court in Miami.

Trump had threatened to sue almost immediately after the story, which was written by Journal reporters Khadeeja Safdar and Joe Palazzolo, was published late Thursday afternoon. Both reporters are named as defendants in the lawsuit, as per CNN.. -nw

Trump once again threatens 10% tariffs on BRICS nations over dollar dominance

WASHINGTON DC: US President Donald Trump has warned that countries aligning with the BRICS economic bloc will face additional 10 per cent tariffs on their goods, as he seeks to protect the dollar’s global dominance.

Speaking at a White House event on Friday, Trump accused the group of trying to “take over” the US dollar and said he would not allow America’s currency to “slide”.

“We have this little group called BRICS, which is fading out fast,” the president said during a ceremony where he signed cryptocurrency legislation into law. “BRICS, they wanted to try and take over the dollar, the dominance of the dollar and the standard of the dollar.”

Trump claimed that after issuing his tariff warning, a subsequent BRICS meeting saw poor attendance. “They didn’t want to be tarified,” he said.

BRICS is an economic alliance originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. The group expanded significantly last year to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Saudi Arabia



and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The bloc has discussed reducing reliance on the US dollar in international trade, although member countries have offered differing perspectives on this goal.

The US has set an August 1 deadline for the implementation of tariffs, after an earlier July 9 deadline for trade agreements passed.

Trump said he would send letters to countries detailing tariff rates if agreements are not reached.

“I hit them very, very hard, and it will end very quickly. I don’t think they’ll do it. They’re virtually afraid to meet,” the

president said.

Central bank digital currency

Trump also reiterated his opposition to creating a central bank digital currency in the United States, calling it something that “won’t happen” under his administration.

India has previously sought to clarify its position on dollar alternatives. On 17 July, the country’s foreign ministry said “de-dollarisation” was not on the BRICS agenda.

“Cross-border payments, yes, BRICS have talked about local currencies, but de-dollarisation is not something that is there on the agenda,” said the official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Randhir Jaiswal.

This is not the first time Trump has threatened BRICS nations over currency issues. In 2024, he warned of 100 per cent tariffs if the group moved ahead with creating its own currency to rival the dollar.

The latest comments come as the Trump administration continues to use trade policy as a tool to advance US economic interests globally. -ANI

EUROPEAN UNION

EU envoy to India clarifies about sanctions on Russia

NEW DELHI: The European Union’s recent sanctions on Russian oil, energy, banking and defence industries are aimed at degrading Moscow’s “war economy” while preserving global oil market stability, said Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to India Herve Delphin on Saturday.

Delphin, in a post on X, outlined the EU’s sanctions policy against Russia, which also targeted a refinery in India, emphasising that it does not prevent countries from purchasing Russian oil and thus avoiding disruptions to global supply.

The refinery in India is under Rosneft, a leader in the Russian refining industry, as one of its main shareholders.

As per the EU Envoy, the 18th sanctions package reduces the price cap on Russian oil from USD 60 to USD 47.6 per barrel and seeks to further curb revenues fuelling Russia’s military efforts in Ukraine. “On EU sanctions policy on Russian oil: Doesn’t prevent anyone from buying oil from Russia --> so as not to disrupt the global oil market supply. Capping on Russian oil export prices --> a way of reducing the amount of revenues that feed/are channeled into the Russian war economy. 18th package reduces the capping from USD 60 barrel to USD 47.6 barrel --> to reduce even further revenues Russia draws from oil



export sales,” Delphin stated.

The EU Envoys’ clarification on the sanctions followed India’s response to the decision, in which New Delhi stated that it does not subscribe to any unilateral sanctions measures while emphasising the importance of avoiding double standards, especially in the domain of energy trade.

As per Delphin, the new cap, adjustable based on market reference prices, imposes a discount on Russian oil, benefiting buyers with stronger bargaining positions. The EU has also banned third-country operators from exporting refined oil products made from Russian crude to the European market, closing a loophole that indirectly boosted Russian revenues.

The EU Envoy also noted that European citizens support this

measure, despite potential higher import costs from alternative suppliers.

“The capping can fluctuate according to oil market reference price --> preserves elasticity of oil market for buyers. The capping amounts to imposing a discount on Russian oil --> benefit for the buyer who has a better bargaining position. Ban on export by third country operators to Europe of refined oil products made from Russian crude oil --> closing loophole to avoid European companies buy such products and indirectly add to Russian oil revenues. European citizens want this, even if it may result in higher import cost by buying from other suppliers,” the post added.

Additionally, the EU has sanctioned 450 shadow fleet oil tanker ships, targeting Russia’s attempts to circumvent sanctions through illicit transport networks, while highlighting the impact that the previously imposed sanctions have had in depriving Russia of EUR 450 billion, resources that would have otherwise supported its military efforts in Ukraine.

“Sanctions on shadow fleet oil tanker ships (port call and provision of services) --> closing a loophole that Russia uses to circumvent this sanction. 450 sanctioned shadow fleet ships by the EU. EU conducts its sanctions policy diligently & responsibly,” he noted in his post. -ANI



TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Nama Dhofar Services invites the specialized companies to participate and submit their offers for the below said tenders:

Tender Number	Tender Name	Last Date for Collection of Documents	Time & Last Date for Proposal Submission	Tender Fee (OMR) Including VAT (5%)
DISC/2025/102	Legal Outsource	27/07/2025	03/08/2025	52.5 OMR

- To purchase the tender document website via the link or the Barcode below:
https://supplier.nama.om:4443/OA_HTML/OA.jsp?OAFunc=XXTEN_TENDER_FLOAT_DISC_F
- Every company wishing to participate in this tender must attach with its bid a bid bond in the form of a bank guarantee from one of the banks operating in the Sultanate of Oman. Any bid that does not contain the bid bond will be disqualified.
- The original bid bond must be submitted in an envelope sealed with red wax and addressed to the chairperson of the minor tender committee and written on outside the Tender name and the Tender number and it should be paced in the tender box in Nama Dhofar Services in Salalah before 03:00 pm of the last day for submitting Bids.
- Bids shall be submitted online through using “supplier portal”. No hard copies are accepted.
- The Tender fees are not refundable. However, Tenderers who are holding “Riyada” card issued from public authority for SME development will be exempted from providing the tender fee and the Bid bond.
- The company is not obliged to accept the lowest or any other bid.
- In the event of receipt of the tender document on behalf of another company, the interested purchasers in the above tender document should provide details of the person’s name and the company details.



SPORTS

NZ cruise past Zimbabwe

Henry's incisive spell, Conway's fluent half-century powered Kiwis to eight-wicket win in the T20I tri-series

HARARE: Matt Henry's incisive spell and Devon Conway's fluent half-century helped New Zealand cruise to an eight-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in Harare on Friday, taking them to the top of the tri-nation T20I series points table with two wins in two matches.

After restricting Zimbabwe to 120 — the lowest first-innings total of the tournament so far — New Zealand chased down the target with ease, finishing the job in just 13.5 overs. The emphatic win also gave a significant boost to their net run rate, which now stands at +1.919.

Henry was once again the spearhead for New Zealand, backing up his 3 for 34 against South Africa with another strong showing of



3 for 26. He effectively used the short ball to keep Zimbabwe's batters in check, while spin also played a key role. On a surface that offered considerable turn, New Zealand's spin trio — Mitchell Santner, Michael Bracewell, and Rachin Ravindra — shared three wickets and gave away just 43 runs across nine overs.

Zimbabwe's innings began brightly, with Wessly Madhevere showing early aggression. He struck consecutive boundaries

off Henry in the opening over and looked to set a positive tone. Partnering first with Brian Bennett and later with Clive Madande, Madhevere helped Zimbabwe reach 61/2 at the halfway mark.

However, his dismissal for 36 — his highest score in 14 T20I innings — triggered a familiar collapse. Madande was stumped after being deceived in flight by Ravindra, and Zimbabwe went from 71/3 to 98/6 in the space of six overs. The final flourish never came, with

just 21 runs added in the last three overs.

New Zealand's chase got off to a slightly shaky start when Tim Seifert fell for 3, miscuing a short ball from Blessing Muzarabani. Zimbabwe could have tightened the screws further — Conway was dropped early and had a couple of nervy moments — but failed to capitalise.

Conway (59*) gradually found his rhythm, first in partnership with Ravindra and then alongside



Daryl Mitchell. Though he started scratchily, including multiple top edges and a near run-out, the left-hander came into his own by the back half of the innings. He struck two sixes — one each off Ngarava and Raza — and brought up his fifty in 34 balls, finishing unbeaten on 59 off 40, with four fours and two sixes. Ravindra added a composed 30 off 19 before falling to Maposa, and Mitchell (26*) ensured there were no hiccups as New Zealand eased to victory.

With two defeats in two matches, Zimbabwe remain winless and face a tough path to the final. They must now win both of their remaining games — against South Africa and New Zealand — and hope for a net run rate swing. **Brief scores:** Zimbabwe 120/7 in 20 overs (Wessly Madhevere 36; Matt Henry 3-26, Rachin Ravindra 1-10) lost to New Zealand 122/2 in 13.5 overs (Devon Conway 59*, Rachin Ravindra 30; Tinotenda Maposa 1-17). - Agencies

OLD TRAFFORD TEST

Jurel may keep, Pant to play as batter



MANCHESTER: India are weighing a bold tactical switch ahead of the fourth Test against England at Old Trafford next week (starting on July 23) — bringing in Dhruv Jurel as the wicketkeeper while using Rishabh Pant purely as a specialist batter, according to an *ESPNcricinfo* report.

The move is being explored as Pant continues to recover from a bruised left index finger sustained while taking a Jasprit Bumrah delivery down the leg side during the first innings at Lord's. Though Pant remains a central figure in India's plans, the team management, including assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate, has indicated Jurel is a viable option if Pant is

unable to don the gloves.

Jurel, who impressed on debut during England's tour of India earlier this year, was in sharp form at India's training session over the past few days. The 23-year-old unfurled crisp strokes that repeatedly found the distant green seats and grassy slopes beyond the boundary. He then handled a challenging short-spell from bowling coach Morne Morkel — who bowled from 20 yards to test both Jurel's defence and reflexes — with poise and precision.

Since his Test debut, Jurel has stood out for his solid technique and fearless mindset. That composure was evident during his gritty 90 in Ranchi, where he rescued



India from a precarious position on a turning pitch. His ability to counter spin by confidently charging and sweeping made him Player of the Match.

The son of a former army man, Jurel exudes confidence with his upright posture and assured presence. His run of form has continued in England, scoring three fifties against England Lions in unofficial Tests in June, including a measured knock at Canterbury in testing overcast conditions alongside KL Rahul.

Despite this, Jurel didn't feature in the first three Tests, with India favouring the all-round skills of Washington Sundar and Nitish Kumar Reddy. However, for-

mer Indian wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik, commentating during the Lord's Test, praised Jurel's glove work, highlighting his well-balanced set-up and sharp take to dismiss Ollie Pope off Ravindra Jadeja.

If Jurel plays and Pant moves to a specialist batting role, one among Karun Nair, Reddy, or Washington may have to make way. Nair has struggled for consistency, while Reddy's batting form has dipped despite crucial wickets at Lord's. Washington, having found drift and bounce, may retain his spot at spin-friendly Old Trafford.

Whatever the decision, India know Jurel will be ready — chest out, chin up. - Agencies

UNANIMOUSLY APPOINTED



ZC chief Mukuharani elected chair of Africa Cricket Association

HARARE: Zimbabwe Cricket (ZC) head Tavengwa Mukuharani has been appointed chairman of the Africa Cricket Association (ACA) after serving in the same role in an interim capacity since November last year.

Mukuharani was unanimously appointed by the 23 ACA member associations at their annual general meeting in Singapore on Friday.

"We stand today at the threshold of a new era for African cricket - an era defined by stronger governance, broader opportunity and renewed ambition," Mukuharani said in a statement issued by ZC. "Let us continue building on the progress we have made, united by a common purpose and driven by a shared love for the game."

The ACA, which includes two Full Members in South Africa and Zimbabwe, has recently been through an administrative overhaul, which has included the adoption of a new memorandum of incorporation to ensure better governance.

Among the body's next tasks is the establishment of an Africa

T20 competition, which has been in the works for several years, the resumption of the Afro-Asia Cup, which was mooted last year, and the inclusion of cricket at the Africa Games in Egypt in 2027 after it debuted at the same competition in 2023.

Cricket made its first appearance at the continental competition in Ghana, where Zimbabwe won both the men's and women's events (the men's with an emerging side) as South Africa sent experimental sides instead of their full-strength teams.

Mukuharani is interested in extending cricket's reach at the Africa Games, in part, with the hope of securing more funding for the ACA. "These engagements are crucial not only for visibility but also for opening new doors of investment, policy support and continental collaboration," he said.

Mukuharani has been ZC's chair since 2015 and has been re-elected three times. He also sits on the ICC's finance and commercial affairs committee. - Agencies

FIFA 2026 WORLD CUP

Oman grouped with hosts Qatar, UAE in October's Road to 26 playoffs



MUSCAT: Oman have been pooled with hosts Qatar and UAE in Group A as the six Asian teams aiming to qualify for the FIFA World Cup 2026 discovered their path to the Finals following the conclusion of the AFC Asian Qualifiers - Road to 26 Playoffs draw at the AFC House in Kuala Lumpur recently.

The six teams were divided into two groups, with only the top side

from each to join the six Asian nations already through at next year's global showpiece.

The second-placed teams from both groups will square off in a two-legged showdown across November 13 and 18. This knockout stage will determine the Continent's representative at the FIFA Playoff Tournament, which offers one final qualifying opportunity.

Hosts Qatar will face the United



Arab Emirates and Oman in Group A, with matches to be played in a single round-robin format scheduled for October 8 to 14. Group B hosts Saudi Arabia will have Iraq and Indonesia for company.

A draw was also held to determine the host team of the knockout stage, with the Group A runners-up to host the first leg.

Australia, Japan, Jordan, Korea Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran

and Uzbekistan have already confirmed their spots at the Finals.

Oman, who named Portuguese Carlos Queiroz as head coach on Tuesday, will be hoping for a debut appearance at the global showpiece - finished fourth in the third round in Group B.

Qatar, aiming to qualify for the World Cup on merit after having made their debut as hosts in 2022, advanced to the playoffs after fin-



ishing fourth in Group A of the third round of the Asian Qualifiers.

UAE, seeking a second appearance at the Finals following their debut in the 1990 edition, finished third in Group A.

In Group B, Saudi Arabia, bidding for a third consecutive and seventh overall appearance at the Finals, have to navigate the playoffs after finishing third in Group C of the third round

Draw result (matches to be played between October 8-14)

Group A: Qatar (Hosts), UAE, Oman

Group B: Saudi Arabia (Hosts), Iraq, Indonesia

Knockout stage: 13 November: First leg: Runners-up Group A vs Runners-up Group B.

18 November: Second leg: Runners-up Group B vs Runners-up Group A.

DIRECTOR OF SALES

Aloft Muscat announced the appointment of Hussein Gamaleldin as the hotel's new Director of Sales. Hussein brings deep expertise in sales, marketing, branding, and business development, along with a proven track record of driving commercial success across global markets.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



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WEB PAYMENT API SOLUTION

In a move to advance Oman's digital financial ecosystem, Bank Muscat and Oman Telecommunication Company (Omantel) have announced the activation of a state-of-the-art Web Payment API solution, marking a strategic step in delivering seamless enterprise payment experiences.

Muscat Stock Exchange index rises by 51 points in weekly trading

The market capitalisation of securities listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange recorded gains of OMR206.7 million rising to OMR28.643 billion by the end of Thursday's trading



MUSCAT: The Muscat Stock Exchange's main index doubled its gains during the week, rising for the fourth consecutive week, benefiting from the preliminary financial results for the first half of this year announced by public joint-stock companies, which showed improved performance and higher net profits.

The main index closed at 5,654 points on Thursday, up 51 points over the week. The financial sector index rose 5 points, the services sector index rose 7 points, and the Sharia index remained unchanged at its previous level of 449 points. Meanwhile, the industrial sector index declined 70 points, affected by a number of declines recorded by industrial companies such as Oman Flour Mills, Building Materials Industry, Al Maha Ceramics, Voltamp Energy, and a number of other companies.

Most public joint-stock companies listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange have announced their preliminary financial results for the first half of this year over the

past two weeks. This has had a positive impact on the Muscat Stock Exchange's performance, while investment funds and companies continue to inject more liquidity into the exchange.

Trading data released by the Muscat Stock Exchange showed a 14 percent increase in transactions executed during the week, rising to approximately 10,600 transactions compared to 9,290 transactions during the previous week. The Muscat Stock Exchange maintained high levels of trading value at approximately OMR82.4 million.

The market capitalisation of securities listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange recorded gains of OMR206.7 million rising to OMR28.643 billion by the end of Thursday's trading.

Investors focused on OQ Basic Industries, which saw trading worth OMR21.9 million, representing 26.5 percent of the total trading value. Asyad Shipping came in second with trading worth OMR15.1 million, representing 18.3 percent of the total trading value. Bank Muscat came in third with trading worth OMR14.4 million, representing 17.5 percent of

the total trading value.

During the week, 42 securities rose, 29 declined, and 16 remained unchanged. Muscat Insurance recorded the highest gains, rising 20.3 percent to close at 794 baisas. Oman Oil Marketing Company rose 11.9 percent to close at 750 baisas. Dhofar Food and Investment Company rose 11.2 percent to 79 baisas. Oman Education and Training Investment Company rose 10 percent to close at OMR1.320. Salalah Port Services recorded gains of 8.3 percent to close at 260 baisas.

National Aluminium Products Company led the losing stocks, declining by 15.8 percent to close at 85 baisas. International Financial Investments Company fell by 11.7 percent to close at 135 baisas. Al Madina Investment Holding Company fell by 8.8 percent to close at 41 baisas. Oman Flour Mills Company fell by 7.6 percent to close at 469 baisas. Building Materials Industry Company recorded a decline of 7.3 percent to close at 63 baisas.

In corporate news, Asyad Shipping Company announced that it took delivery of a new 308,000-tonne crude oil tanker

Omani market gains amid mixed earnings

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Omani stock market delivered another positive performance this week, rising by 1.13% and continuing its recent recovery trend, according to an industry watcher. "This performance was supported by a wave of second-quarter (Q2) earnings announcements. Although the results were mixed, they helped bolster market sentiment and could pave the way for further gains," said Milad Azar, Market analyst at XTB Mena.

"The regional markets were contending with several external developments, primarily from the United States. Recent US economic data pointed to a potential resurgence in inflation, signalling that the Federal Reserve (Fed) might maintain interest rates unchanged for an extended period," he said. "Furthermore, Trump tariffs continue to inject uncertainty into the markets, weighing on investor sentiment," he further added.

At the macroeconomic level, the Ministry of Economy an-



nounced a 2.2% forecast for gross domestic product (GDP) growth in 2025. Solid growth expectations could fuel a positive sentiment among investors and support the market.

Sector performance was mixed this week. The Services sector advanced by 0.40%, led by notable gains in key companies. OQ Gas Networks rose by 1.32%, despite its results showing a decrease in profits. Oman Telecom climbed 3.76%. Additionally, OQ Exploration and Production's stock price increased by 2.17%; although

its profits declined, the stock was positively influenced by a newly signed agreement with Turkish Petroleum (TPAO), which is viewed as an entry point for a wide-ranging strategic partnership.

The Financial sector was slightly higher, gaining 0.07%. The advance was supported by strong half-year results from several institutions: stocks of Bank Muscat increased by 1.82%, National Bank of Oman rose by 3.33%, and Ominvest climbed by 4.09%. On the other hand, Sohar International Bank declined by 0.72% following the announcement of lower revenues and profits in its half-year report.

The Industrial sector declined by 1.03%. Voltamp Energy saw a significant drop of 7.26% after a court postponed an appeal hearing for a case filed by the company against Credit Oman; this development overshadowed the strong half-year results the company had posted. Similarly, Al Anwar Ceramic was down 5.88%, even after releasing positive first-half results.

last week. The company further said that the new tanker is part of a deal signed earlier this year to acquire two crude oil tankers in a deal worth \$206 million. The company said that the new ship has been named "Qaryat," noting that the other ship will be received in the coming period.

Liva Group, a leading insurance company, announced that it has

restructured and consolidated its existing loans into a new OMR63 million credit facility with Bank Sohar International.

The restructuring offers the company several advantages, most notably lower borrowing costs, improved cash flow management, and enhanced ability to allocate capital more flexibly.

Phoenix Energy Company stat-

ed that it has set July 28th as the date for distributing dividends to shareholders, in accordance with the decision of the Annual General Assembly, which decided on March 18th to distribute cash dividends of 3.5 baisas per share from retained earnings, according to the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. - **ONA**

END OF MAY 2025



Oman's natural gas production edges up by 0.3 % to reach 22.71bn cubic metres

MUSCAT: Natural gas production in the Sultanate of Oman, including local production and imports, grew by 0.3 percent reaching 22.71 billion cubic metres by the end of May 2025 compared to 22.65 billion cubic metres during the same period in 2024.

Preliminary statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) indicate that associated gas production increased by 11.1 percent to 5.17 billion cubic metres by the end of May 2025 compared to 4.65 billion cubic metres during the same period in 2024. Meanwhile, non-associated gas production with imports decreased by 2.5 percent, reaching 17.53 billion cubic metres, compared to 17.99 billion cubic metres in the corresponding period of 2024.

Statistics further show that natural gas consumption in in-

dustrial projects declined by 6 percent to 11.45 billion cubic metres by the end of May 2025 compared to 12.19 billion cubic metres during the same period last year.

In contrast, the use of gas in power plants increased by 3 percent to 5.81 billion cubic metres by the end of May compared to 5.64 billion cubic metres at the end of May 2024.

The data further showed a 13.3 percent increase in gas consumption in oil fields. The gas consumption in industrial zones, Oman Mining Company and Oman Cement reached 5.33 billion cubic metres compared to 4.70 billion cubic metres in the same period in 2024.

Gas used in industrial zones grew by 7 percent, reaching 113.80 million cubic metres compared to 106.30 million during the same period last year. - **ONA**

DATA

Total assets of Islamic banks and windows hit OMR9 billion by end of May 2025

MUSCAT: Total assets of Islamic banks and windows combined amounted to OMR9 billion by the end of May 2025, representing 20 percent of the total assets of the banking sector in the Sultanate of Oman, registering a 17.5 percent increase compared to the same period last year.

Data issued by the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) indicated that the total financing balance granted by units engaged in this activity increased by 12.3 percent, reaching approximately OMR7.2 billion by the end of last May.

Statistics showed that deposits at Islamic banks and windows increased by 16.6 percent, reaching OMR7 billion by the end of May 2025. - **ONA**



STATE FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUDIT AUTHORITY

State Audit Authority participates in first joint ARABOSAI-ASOSAI meeting in Baku

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority participated in the First Joint Meeting between the Arab Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ARABOSAI) and the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), held on Friday in Baku, Azerbaijan. The authority's delegation was headed by Zahra bint Mohammed Redha Al Lawati, Deputy Chairman for audit of authorities, investments, and companies, accompanied by a number of specialists from the authority.

Presentations

The meeting featured presentations by the Knowledge Sharing Committee, the Capacity Building



Committee, the Policy, Finance and Administration Committee, and the Institutional Capacity Development Committee. These

presentations highlighted the mandates assigned to each committee and discussed ways to enhance cooperation between ARA-

BOSAI and ASOSAI.

The agenda also included sharing experiences of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) regarding "Audit Response to Climate Change" and "The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Audit," in addition to discussing "Green Infrastructure Initiatives".

The Authority's participation in this joint meeting emphasizes its ongoing commitment to actively contribute to international efforts aimed at strengthening accountability and audit, while exchanging experiences with peer institutions. This participation supports the development of the financial audit framework and contributes to the adoption of best practices promoted by the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI).

MARKET

Bank Muscat, Omantel announce activation of web payment solution

This integration enables Omantel’s corporate customers with accounts at Bank Muscat to settle payments directly through Omantel’s Business Self-Service Portal, streamlining the process, improving reconciliation, and enhancing overall user experience with secure, real-time transactions

MUSCAT: In a move to advance Oman’s digital financial ecosystem, Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, and Oman Telecommunication Company (Omantel), the first and leading provider of integrated telecom and technology services in Oman, have announced the activation of a state-of-the-art Web Payment API solution, marking a strategic step in delivering seamless enterprise payment experiences.

On this occasion, the two or-



ganisations signed the partnership agreement in the presence of Ahmed bin Faqir Al Balushi, Deputy CEO, Banking at Bank Muscat, and Aladdin Bait Fadhil, Chief Commercial Officer at Omantel.

This step represents a continuation of the bank’s commitment to facilitating seamless integration of top-notch digital solutions for institutions. Further to the launch of API Banking last year, the bank strengthened its partnership with various institutions and companies by implementing several ERP API services.

Besides, this integration enables Omantel’s corporate customers with accounts at Bank Muscat to

settle payments directly through Omantel’s Business Self-Service Portal, streamlining the process, improving reconciliation, and enhancing overall user experience with secure, real-time transactions.

The initiative reflects a shared commitment to digitizing Oman’s enterprise landscape and creating secure, efficient, and future-ready services. The collaboration leverages Bank Muscat’s advanced API capabilities and Omantel’s powerful digital infrastructure to deliver tangible value to customers.

Ahmed bin Faqir Al Balushi, Deputy CEO, Banking at Bank Muscat, said: “We are thrilled to announce the activation of our Web Payment

API with Omantel, our first telecom partner to integrate this advanced solution. This partnership serves as an extension to our efforts to offer seamless, secure services that simplify the banking experience for corporate customers. Through such strategic collaborations, we will continue to deliver customer-focused digital solutions tailored to evolving business needs.”

Eng. Aladdin Bait Fadhil, Chief Commercial Officer at Omantel, said: “We are proud to be the first telecom to integrate Bank Muscat’s Web Payment API, a step that aligns with our strategy to elevate digital engagement for our enterprise customers. This solution improves the way our customers manage payments and enhances the accuracy and speed of our internal reconciliation processes. Real-time updates and immediate confirmations offer a smoother, more reliable experience for corporate customers. This partnership reinforces our role in delivering innovative, customer-focused digital services in the telecom space.”

Bank Muscat and Omantel are redefining the future of enterprise services in Oman by offering integrated, secure, and intelligent digital solutions.

APPOINTMENT

Aloft Muscat appoints Hussein Gamaleldin as Director of Sales

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Aloft Muscat announced the appointment of Hussein Gamaleldin as the hotel’s new Director of Sales.

With over two decades of experience in luxury hospitality, Hussein brings deep expertise in sales, marketing, branding, and business development, along with a proven track record of driving commercial success across global markets.



Hussein has held leadership roles with some of the world’s most prestigious hotel brands, including Hyatt International, Marriott International, Starwood Luxury Collection, Oberoi Hotels & Resorts, IHG Hotels, and The Address Hotels. His career spans the GCC, Europe, and Far East, where he has led successful rebranding efforts, hotel pre-openings, and market expansion initiatives across key segments such as corporate, MICE, leisure, and F&B.

Renowned for his strategic leadership and deep understanding of revenue optimization, digital marketing, and brand positioning, Hussein is also recognized for his ability to build high-performing, cross-cultural teams and align stakeholders toward shared business goals.

Commenting on his appointment, Ramy Hamdoun, General Manager of Aloft Muscat, said: “We are thrilled to welcome Hussein to the Aloft Muscat leadership team. His extensive background and visionary approach will play a key role in driving our commercial strategy and strengthening our position as a leading lifestyle hotel in the market.”

In his new role, Hussein will

With over two decades of experience in luxury hospitality, Hussein brings deep expertise in sales, marketing, branding, and business development, along with a proven track record of driving commercial success across global markets

focus on expanding market share, enhancing brand visibility, and forging strong partnerships to support the hotel’s continued growth in Oman’s dynamic hospitality landscape.

ENHANCING CAPABILITIES OF OMANI YOUTH



Sohar International celebrates its third cohort of ‘Tomohi’ graduates

MUSCAT: In a testament to its commitment to human capital development and its strategic role in driving national progress, Sohar International hosted the graduation ceremony for the third cohort of its distinguished ‘Tomohi’ programme.

Held at the Mandarin Oriental, Muscat, the event took place under the patronage of Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, and in the presence of Said Mohamed Al-Aufi, Chairman of Sohar International, and Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, Chief Executive Officer of Sohar International.

The ceremony was also attended by members of the Board of Directors, senior executives from the bank’s executive management, esteemed VIP guests, and the families of the graduates — further underscoring the significance of the occasion and the collective pride in celebrating this important milestone.

Since its launch in 2018, the ‘Tomohi’ programme has contributed to enhancing the capabilities of 55 ambitious Omani youth by developing their skills and strengthening their readiness for the job market. The successful employment of all 15 graduates from the third cohort within various departments across the bank further reflects Sohar International’s commitment to transforming empowerment into tangible opportunities, reinforcing

its dedication to nurturing national talent and integrating them into the financial sector.

Commenting on the occasion, Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, Chief Executive Officer of Sohar International, stated: “Tomohi represents more than a developmental initiative—it is a strategic investment in Oman’s future. As we transition into a knowledge-based economy, nurturing agile, forward-thinking talent becomes imperative to drive innovation, competitiveness, and national growth. At Sohar International, we view human capital development as a cornerstone of sustainable progress. Through Tomohi, we are not only equipping youth with practical experience and leadership capabilities but also cultivating a generation empowered to shape the future of our nation. This program reflects our unwavering commitment to supporting Oman Vision 2040 and building a resilient economy powered by local talent.”

The ceremony opened with a keynote speech by Abdulwahid Mohamed Al Murshidi, reaffirming the bank’s longstanding commitment to empowering local talent and contributing to the nation’s Vision 2040 objectives. Attended by more than 100 guests, including senior executives, program graduates, and their families, the event served as a celebration of both individual achievement and collective progress.

A short documentary film was

showcased, capturing the transformative journey of Tomohi participants throughout the year. The video highlighted the program’s practical components, mentorship engagements, and the evolution of participants into confident, job-ready professionals. This was followed by an address from Nabil Al Raisi, Head of Sohar Academy, who underscored the program’s strategic alignment with the bank’s vision for talent development and organizational excellence.

Adding a personal dimension to the evening, selected graduates took the stage to share their testimonials, reflecting on the challenges they overcame and the growth they experienced through the program. Their stories offered powerful insights into the real-world impact of Tomohi and the value of corporate-led training pathways. The event concluded with the formal recognition of the graduates, who were honored in the presence of dignitaries and Sohar International’s leadership.

As a cornerstone of the bank’s CSR and talent development agenda, the Tomohi program reinforces Sohar International’s belief in purposeful progress—where talent is nurtured, opportunities are created, and success is shared. Through such initiatives, the bank continues to play a proactive role in shaping a vibrant, future-ready workforce, contributing meaningfully to Oman’s socioeconomic advancement.

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Pakistani male with experience of 12 yrs (5 yrs in Oman) in finance,accounts seeks job with Oman D/L.Contact 78363317. Email: bilalattariacca@gmail.com

ACCA, MBA finance Senior accountant 12 yrs Gulf exp.Can join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 95318382

Indian male, 40 yrs, MBA & CMA (US), 15+ yrs experience in corporate banking, investment banking, financial analysis, stakeholder management and audit. Looking for suitable placement. NOC available. Contact: 99657814

Indian male, Chief Accountant, Commerce graduate with 14 yrs of experience in Oman. Seeking suitable position. Contact: 96242858

Indian male, Accountant, 9yrs experience of accounts & finance, looking for job. Contact: 94713034 Email: rajithv999@gmail.com

Indian male, 40 yrs, MBA & CMA (US), 15+ yrs experience in corporate banking, investment banking, financial analysis, stakeholder management and audit. Looking for suitable placement. NOC available. Contact: 99657814.

Indian (M), 24yrs, B.Com graduate (+SAP FICO & SAP B-ONE) with 01 yr of experience in accounting. Currently in Oman and looking for a suitable position. Contact: 76422467. Email: mohdthanseeb@gmail.com

Looking for Accountant job, with D/L Cont. 92092486, Email:sagarjohn28@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Finance professional with 21+ yrs' experience in Accounts, budgeting, MIS, treasury, taxation, audit and banking. Well-versed in ERP platforms SAP, GPS, AS400, Tally. Seeking senior role in finance & accounts +968-99751039. Email bharatiya_2001@yahoo.com

ADMINISTRATION

Indian, well experienced in Oman. Seeks job for admin,secretary,Hr or any suitable post. D/L holder. Contact: 78723915

HR Manager 15 yrs experience in the Gulf looking for a suitable position. NOC available, valid D/L. Qualification: MBA in HR & finance & HR certifications. Available to join immediately. 95323264, Email: deepvg9@gmail.com

Dynamic and well-experienced professional: 5 yrs of Dubai and 4.5 yrs of Muscat experience in operations management, business excellence or key account management looking for new challenges. Contact: 96766702, Email: ilyas3299@gmail.com

Indian(M), Oman experience in airport, hospital, oil & gas, construction. Contact: 99283938.

Helper with merchandiser looking for job. Contact: 78651895, 99766761

Dynamic Indian professional (M), MBA pursuing, 7 yrs overall Oman experience incl. 5 yrs as Branch Manager (mail & retail) with D/L, ready for challenging role in operations, BD, or management. Contact: +968 96722110 | Email:yasiny007@gmail.com

ARCHITECT

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

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

DRIVER

Looking for driving job. Contact: 97313440

Looking for driving job, has car. Contact: 98586920

Looking light driving job. Contact: 96091045

JOB WANTED

DRIVER

Looking for suitable job. Has 10 yrs driving experience.Knows Arabic, English & Hindi. 97133246

Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801

Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920

Looking for driving job. Contact: +968 99532361

Looking for driving job with 2 yrs experience. Contact: 97995898

EDUCATION/TRAINING

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

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

ENGINEER

Senior Engineer 20+ yrs exp in Elec. & Mech. projects in design, supervision & execution. Available with NOC, OSE membership & D/L. 99148940, jobluk.om@gmail.com

Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com

Project Manager (Civil) Indian, 18 yr GCC experience valid D/L and transferable visa, can join immediately. Contact: 97723786

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

Sr.Project engineer MEP 18yrs [14 yrs GCC] experience in MEP construction. Contact/WA: 97135658

B. Tech Civil Engineer with 15+yrs experience. PDO HSE and Oman society engineering certificate,valid Omani D/L. Looking for a suitable position. Available for immediate join. NOC available. Mob: 78790123

Indian male Diploma civil site engineer with 27 yrs experience in Oman looking for a job. Contact 99423274. Email: mmthomasvarghese@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Indian male, B.Tech Mechatronics engineer, 24yrs, having 1yr experience. Interested in MEP, HVAC, electromechanical & robotics jobs. Presently in Oman. Contact: 92027064. Email: syedarshyan90@gmail.com

Indian male, automobile engineer, 10 yrs experience in dealership workshop operations and supervision, seeking job opportunity. Contact +96878406449.

MEDICAL

Psychology postgraduate (MSc) seeks role in clinical, NGO, research setting. Experience in behaviour therapy (Autism, ADHD). Contact: +968 98020224. Email: vaidehisharma2108@gmail.com

Female microbiologist, lab technician with MOH license including 6 yrs experience in Oman seeking suitable placement. Contact: 93515501

Indian, 4 yrs experience in medical social work (MSW postgraduate), looking for a suitable job in hospitals or institutions. Contact: 77030210, 99573353

MANAGER

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

IT

Indian female, MSC Computer Science, 2 yrs IT trainer experience. Looking for entry junior level job Looking career growth only no salary expectation, ready to join immediately. Contact /WA- +968 71681279

IT

Indian female, 2 yrs experience in web development in service based company. Searching for a suitable position as system engineer. Contac: +968-95220137.Email ashnanidahn@gmail.com

PROCUREMENT/ PURCHASE

Looking for job in purchase 11yrs relevant field experience currently in Oman contact 94358072/76461907 email:hussi5@yahoo.com

SALES/MARKETING

Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 9456 6786

Indian male 22 yrs, Diploma in Precision manufacturing with VMC knowledge, actively seeking for position in sales, marketing, purchases, administration or any other suitable field. Contact 76778110 E-mail: aqibkaleem018@gmail.com

Indian male with 2 yrs experience in sales & marketing jobs with valid D/L. Contact: 95917751

Indian male, 17 yrs experience in sales marketing in Oman with valid D /L. (FMCG, electrical, sanitaryware). Contact 99508485

Senior Sales executive with 20 yrs experience in Oman with valid D/L, associated with reputed companies, seeks suitable placement. Contact 96440275. Email: divineshiju1@gmail.com.

Indian male (35) MBA in Oman with 10 yrs exp in marketing, BDM position in multiple industries with D/L. Contact: 78607549



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LIFESTYLE

Scientists find over 200 hidden proteins that may drive Alzheimer’s: Study

Scientists find over 200 hidden proteins that may drive Alzheimer’s: Study

These shape-shifting proteins don’t clump into visible plaques, making them harder to detect but potentially just as harmful. Scientists believe these “stealth” molecules could evade the brain’s cleanup systems and quietly impair memory and brain function.

The discovery opens a new frontier in understanding dementia and could lead to entirely new targets for treatment and prevention. Johns Hopkins University researchers have identified more than 200 types of misfolded proteins in rats that could be associated with age-related cognitive decline.

The findings could lead the way to finding new therapeutic targets and treatments in humans that could provide relief for the millions of people

over 65 who suffer from Alzheimer’s, dementia, or other diseases that rob them of their memories and independence as they age.

“Amyloids are the buildup of misshapen proteins. They’re big and ugly and easy to see under the microscope, so it makes sense that they catch our attention. But we’re seeing hundreds of proteins misfolding in ways that don’t clump together in an amyloid and yet still seem to impact how the brain functions,” said Stephen Fried, an assistant professor of chemistry and protein scientist who studies how molecules in the brain change during aging.

“Our research is showing that amyloids are just the tip of the iceberg,” The results were published on July 11 in Science Advances. To understand the molecular differences between

older brains that are mentally sharp and those that are experiencing decline, Fried and his team studied 17 2-year-old rats that grew up in the same colony. Seven rats performed poorly on memory and problem-solving tests and were considered cognitively impaired, while 10 performed as well as 6-month-old rats.

The researchers then measured more than 2,500 types of protein in the hippocampus, the part of the brain associated with spatial learning and memory.

For the first time, scientists were able to determine for a large number of proteins whether individual proteins were misshapen or folded in correctly, allowing the researchers to work out which proteins misfold for all the rats and are associated with ag-

ing in general versus which proteins specifically misfold in cognitively impaired rats.

More than 200 proteins were misfolded in the cognitively impaired rats yet maintained their shapes in the cognitively healthy rats. The findings suggest that some of those proteins are contributing to cognitive decline, the researchers said.

Misfolded proteins are unable to carry out tasks necessary for a cell to function properly, so cells have a natural surveillance system that identifies and destroys these misbehaving proteins. Previously, researchers thought misfolded proteins -- specifically A-beta and tau proteins -- were only disruptive when they clumped into amyloids.

“We think there are a lot of proteins

that can be misfolded, not form amyloids, and still be problematic,” Fried said. “And that suggests these misfolded proteins have ways of escaping this surveillance system in the cell.”

But exactly how those misfolded proteins slip past a cell’s security system remains a mystery.

Next, the team plans to look at misfolded proteins under high-resolution microscopes to get a more detailed picture of what their deformities look like at the molecular level.

“A lot of us have experienced a loved one or a relative who has become less capable of doing those everyday tasks that require cognitive abilities,” Fried said.

“Understanding what’s physically going on in the brain could lead to better treatments and preventive measures,” added Fried. -ANI

SPORTS

ATHLETICS

UK government backs London 2029 World Championships bid

LONDON: The UK government has confirmed its support for London's bid to host the 2029 World Athletics Championships, BBC Sport reported on Saturday.

If successful, the event would return to London Stadium, which last hosted the event in 2017.

Ministers are also backing a UK bid for the World Para Athletics Championships in 2029, saying they are "committed to taking [it] beyond the capital with a host city to be confirmed in due course".

The government said that "subject to funding from partners being confirmed, [it] has agreed to provide significant funding for both bids".

BBC Sport has been told that

about £35m is expected to come from central government, with £10m of public funding from the London Mayor's office.

The news is a major boost to the sport, as London Stadium hosted a sold-out Diamond League meeting in front of 60,000 spectators on Saturday night.

In June more than 100 of Britain's most renowned athletes wrote an open letter to Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer urging the government to back London's bid to host the World Athletics Championships.

It came after concerns that a bid could be at risk, with uncertainty over the estimated £45m that government was being asked for amid



spending cuts, despite claims that the event would deliver £400m of economic impact.

The championships were not

referenced when ministers unveiled half a billion pounds of investment into sporting events in a spending review last month.

However, talks have been taking place with UK Athletics and UK Sport, and Starmer said he is "delighted to support the bid".

"Bringing the World Athletics Championships to the UK would be a moment of great national pride, building on our global reputation for hosting memorable sporting events that showcase the very best talent," he said.

"Hosting these championships would not only unlock opportunities for UK athletes, but it would inspire the next generation to get involved and pursue their ambitions.

"The event would provide a boost for UK businesses and support jobs as well as bring our

communities together."

Jack Buckner, CEO of UK Athletics, said: "After superb medal hauls over the last few years on the world, Olympic and Paralympic stage, athletics in the UK is on an upward trajectory, with new partners, record participation and sold-out stadia.

"This support will drive the sport on to new heights."

Josh Kerr, 1500m world champion and double Olympic medalist, said: "London 2017 was my first senior World Championships and it lit a fire in me.

"I'm proud to support the bid and hope we get the chance to show the world what we can do on home soil." - Agencies

Scheffler surges to the summit

The world No.1 made eight birdies in a seven-under-par round of 64 to climb above Matt Fitzpatrick by one shot at Royal Portrush



LONDON: Scottie Scheffler left the 18th green with the raised smile and confident stride of a man in familiar territory, and a quick look at the scoreboard will confirm that indeed he is - right on top of the world.

Scheffler grabbed The 153rd Open by the scruff of the neck and took an ominous halfway lead with a masterclass in links golf at Royal Portrush in County Antrim, Northern Ireland. The world No.1 made eight birdies in a seven-under-par round of 64 to climb above Matt Fitzpatrick by one shot going into the weekend.

"Fortunately, it didn't pour the whole time," Scheffler said. "We only had maybe four or five holes where it was really coming down, and I was able to take advantage of the holes where we had some good weather."

"I felt like I hit a few more fairways than I did (Thursday), hit some really nice iron shots, and was able to hole some putts," Scheffler said.

Scheffler will tee off on 10-un-

der-par, one ahead of Fitzpatrick, while 2023 Champion Golfer Brian Harman and China's Haotong Li are a shot further back to complete a breakaway group at the head of the leaderboard.

"I felt like every facet of my game was on today and I felt like I really played solid," Fitzpatrick said. "To take advantage of the opportunities I had out there was obviously really positive."

There is a three-shot gap back

to a group of five players on five-under-par, including round one co-leader Harris English and Scotland's Robert MacIntyre, while Rory McIlroy is two further adrift on three-under.

All three talked up their chances of winning shortly after their rounds but that outlook might have changed as Scheffler seized control.

Golf has not seen a winner like the 29-year-old since Tiger Woods

was in his peak. Scheffler was victorious seven times on the PGA Tour last season, plus an Olympic gold medal, in a season for the ages.

This year, he has already won the PGA Championship, his third major title alongside two Masters successes, and his conversion rate for turning leads into victories is ominously good.

Scheffler must have felt the omens were ominous when he walked onto the 1st tee box and was met by a deluge of rain that had spectators sprinting for cover.

But he took it in his stride and left with a birdie, setting the tone for a brilliant round.

Further birdies followed on 5, 6 and 7 to reach the turn in 32, keeping pace with an equally on-fire Fitzpatrick, before he swooped past him at the end.

A superb tee shot on 16, named Calamity Corner, was followed by a perfect putt for birdie, before he recovered from a wayward tee shot on 17 by finding the green from a kind lie in the right rough and - of course - holing the putt.

It took some of the wind out of Fitzpatrick's sails but the man from Sheffield has a chance to become the first Englishman to win The Open since Nick Faldo in 1992.

Matt Fitzpatrick held a pressure putt to save par on 18 and complete

a five-under-par round of 66.

First-round co-leader Harris English (70), Denmark's Rasmus Hojgaard (68), England's Tyrrell Hatton (69), Scotland's Robert MacIntyre (66) and last weekend's Genesis Scottish Open champion Chris Gotterup (65) all are at 5 under.

Tony Finau (68) and Denmark's Nicolai Hojgaard (69) are at 4 under.

Other notables included U.S. Ryder Cup captain Keegan Bradley (67) and Masters champion Rory McIlroy (69) of Northern Ireland being among five golfers tied for 12th place. They're both at 3 under going to the weekend.

The cut line fell at one-over-par and some big names are heading home early after finding themselves on the wrong side of it.

Collin Morikawa, champion golfer in 2021, finished seven-over-par while 2015 champion Zach Johnson and two-time Claret Jug winner Padraig Harrington, who hit the first shot on Thursday, also missed out.

Cameron Young, who finished second at The 150th Open and T8 the following year, missed the cut for the first time but compatriots Bryson DeChambeau, Xander Schauffele, Jordan Spieth and Wyndham Clark stayed afloat after flirting with peril. - Agencies

AMERICAN STAR

Lyles 'redefining' himself after Olympic 100m gold

LONDON: It is almost 12 months since Noah Lyles reached the pinnacle of his sport by winning Olympic 100m gold at Paris 2024.

It reinforced his position as the world's fastest man following his golden treble at the World Championships a year earlier, and as one of athletics' biggest draws.

But, after backing up his bold claims in a year when he also starred in the sport's Netflix documentary 'Sprint', the outspoken American admits he is yet to decide what version of himself will be on show at the London Diamond League, and beyond.

"I don't know, I'm wondering that," Lyles, who turned 28 on Friday, told BBC Sport. "I had a really good chance to not only just sit with myself but also think ahead to the future, and how I want to continue presenting myself as the showman and so on.

"I think [the crowd are] going to get maybe a mixed bag right now,



as I'm redefining how I want to be seen over the next few years."

On the track, the goals remain clear. Three more world gold medals in Tokyo in September, on the path towards achieving three golds on home soil at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics. Over recent years Lyles has not been afraid to share his grand ambitions, stating that he could target Jamaican great Usain Bolt's long-standing world records, and teasing a bid for four

Olympic golds in Paris.

His hopes of achieving the latter were thwarted by a bout of Covid prior to the 200m final - but he had already secured his crowning moment, by just five-thousandths of a second, in a remarkable 100m final. "It's very surreal. There are some days I wake up and I feel like Noah, and there are other days where I'm like 'I'm the world's fastest man, I'm the Olympic champion in the 100m - I did that!'" said Lyles. - Agencies

SPURS MANAGER

New boss Frank 'in it for the long term' at Tottenham

LONDON: Being Tottenham Hotspur manager has not recently aligned with job security, but new boss Thomas Frank is undaunted by recent history and says he is in it "for the long term".

Speaking in his first news conference since joining in June, Frank joked that, having never been sacked, he took the Spurs job to "get a little bit more risk in his daily life".

While Frank's tone was light-hearted, there is no doubting the demands of the role have proved difficult in the past four years.

Spurs have had four managers since June 2021, with Nuno Espirito Santo lasting just four months, Antonio Conte 16 months and Ange Postecoglou - despite ending the club's 17-year wait for a major trophy by winning the Europa League - two years.

"Coming to a big club, there are pressures," said the Dane. "I like the ambitions and everything I do - every decision I've made - is for the



long term. It's not about surviving 18 months, it's for the long run."

The 51-year-old said it was "extremely positive" for the club to have lifted the Europa League last season and, while he wants to bring more trophies, his main ambition is to ensure Spurs are able to compete on all fronts.

"[Winning the Europa League] gave them that fantastic trophy that this club deserved and needed," he said. "My aim is to add to that. The

first aim is that we need to be able to compete in all four tournaments and do it consistently."

Frank had been the Premier League's second longest-serving manager, leaving Brentford in June having managed them in the top flight since winning promotion in 2021. He said it was a tough decision to leave the west London side, but managing Tottenham was an opportunity he could not refuse. - Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE

Arsenal complete £48.5m signing of Madueke from Chelsea



LONDON: Arsenal have completed the signing of England winger Noni Madueke from Chelsea for an initial fee of £48.5m.

The 23-year-old was part of Chelsea's squad at the Club World Cup in the United States but left the camp before last Sunday's 3-0 win against Paris Saint-Germain in the final to finalise his move to Mikel Arteta's side.

Madueke has signed a five-year contract at Emirates Stadium, with his fee rising to just over £50m with add-ons.

"Humbled and blessed to be here. Thank you to everyone that made this possible," he wrote on Instagram.

"I can't wait to get on the pitch

and start to repay the faith shown in me. It's going to be so special."

He made 92 appearances for Chelsea after joining from PSV Eindhoven for £30m in January 2023 and scored 20 goals, helping them win the Conference League last season.

He was part of Crystal Palace and then Tottenham's academy before spending four-and-a-half years in the Netherlands, where he won the Dutch Cup.

Madueke made his England senior debut in August 2024 and set up Harry Kane's winner as Thomas Tuchel's side defeated Andorra 1-0 in World Cup qualification last month.

Arteta told Arsenal's website:

"Noni is an exciting and powerful young player, with his performances and numbers in recent seasons being of consistently high quality.

"He is one of the most talented wide forward players in the Premier League.

"At just 23, Noni already brings experience of club and international football, and he knows the Premier League very well.

"Having seen the quality of Noni's performances up close in recent seasons, we're really excited he is joining us. His arrival will really improve our squad."

News of Arsenal's interest in the Chelsea winger had prompted a backlash from a section of the

Gunnars supporters earlier this month.

A petition, titled #NoToMadueke, was signed more than 5,000 times and murals outside the club's Emirates Stadium were vandalised with 'Arteta out'.

Madueke becomes Arsenal's fourth signing of the summer and second from Chelsea following the arrival of goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga.

Midfielders Christian Norgaard from Brentford and Martin Zubimendi from Real Sociedad have also joined while the club are also close to signing striker Viktor Gyokeres from Sporting and Valencia defender Cristhian Mosquera. - Agencies

IN PICTURES



Brown-headed gulls at Gahai wetland attract many tourists in summer
Brown-headed gulls play at the Gahai wetland in Luqu County of the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of Gannan, northwest China's Gansu Province, July 11, 2025. Brown-headed gulls at the Gahai wetland attracted many tourists in summer.

Xinhua



Brazil's supreme court decides to impose legal restrictions on ex-president Bolsonaro
Former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro (centre) leaves the headquarters of Criminal Police of Brazil where he was fitted with an electronic anklet for monitoring, in Brasilia, Brazil. A justice of Brazil's Supreme Federal Court had decided to impose strict legal restrictions on former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro and his son Eduardo Bolsonaro for coercion, obstruction of justice, and attack on national sovereignty.

Xinhua



2nd leg of the Men's SEA Volleyball League Thailand vs Philippines
Leo Ordiales (left) of the Philippines spikes the ball against Chaiwat Thungkham of Thailand during the match between Thailand and the Philippines in the 2nd leg of the Men's SEA Volleyball League in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Xinhua



International students experience lotus harvest in E China's Ningbo
International students from the Business School of Ningbo University pick lotus at Sizhang Village of Fenghua District in Ningbo, east China's Zhejiang Province.

Xinhua



World Circus Art Festival 'IDOL-2025' held in Moscow, Russia
Artists perform during the World Circus Art Festival 'IDOL-2025' in Moscow, Russia.

Xinhua



Salman Khan at the launch of Indian Supercross Racing League Season 2
Bollywood actor Salman Khan during the launch of the Indian Supercross Racing League (ISRL) Season 2, in Mumbai.

ANI Photo



'Matatu' in Nairobi, Kenya
A 'matatu' waits for passengers in Nairobi, Kenya. Popularly known as 'matatus', the privately owned minibuses are the main means of public transport playing various routes in this East Africa country. They are famous for their bold graffiti, vibrant music, and artistic designs. The energetic vibe they bring reflects the urban culture and hustle of the city.

Xinhua

ROUND-UP

Muscat Private Hospital and Qpay unveil strategic partnership to launch Oman’s first healthcare BNPL solution

This partnership introduces a groundbreaking payment option in Oman’s healthcare landscape, enabling patients at MPH to receive treatments and pay their bills in four interest-free instalments through Qpay’s secure platform



MUSCAT: In a groundbreaking initiative designed to enhance healthcare accessibility and promote financial inclusion, Muscat Private Hospital (MPH) has officially partnered with Qpay to introduce Oman’s first Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) solution for the medical sector. The partnership was formalised during a signing ceremony at Muscat Private Hospital, attended by Hassan Al Lawati, Chief Exec-



tive Officer of MPH, and Khalid Al-Mahrooqi, Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder of Qpay, along with senior executives from both organisations. This partnership introduces a groundbreaking payment option in Oman’s healthcare landscape, enabling patients at MPH to receive treatments and pay their bills in four interest-free instalments through Qpay’s secure platform. This initiative aims to allevi-

ate financial burdens for patients and facilitate timely access to essential medical services. Hassan Al Lawati emphasised the hospital’s holistic approach to patient care and its commitment to innovative healthcare solutions: “At MPH, we believe in thinking differently and acting compassionately. We are not just a healthcare provider; we are deeply invested in facilitating all the support our patients need to ensure they receive

the best treatment without any difficulties. This partnership is a testament to our ongoing commitment to supporting the people of Oman with accessible and innovative healthcare solutions.” He elaborated on the importance of making healthcare accessible and less stressful for families. “Many families face financial challenges when it comes to medical expenses. Through our collaboration with Qpay, we seek to ease the financial burden associated with healthcare costs, allowing individuals to focus on their health and well-being. This initiative aligns perfectly with our mission to provide not just superior medical treatments but to create an environment where financial concerns do not inhibit access to essential healthcare services.” Khalid Al Mahrooqi remarked that they were excited to collaborate with Muscat Private Hospital as we embark on our journey into the healthcare sector. “This partnership marks a significant

milestone for Qpay, and we look forward to enhancing access to flexible payment solutions within the medical field.” The event also included key attendees such as Dr Raymond, Medical Director of MPH; Rajendar, Finance Director; Madhu Ramaiah, Operations Manager; Vijay, Marketing Manager; and Ali Al Lawati, Co-Founder of Qpay. Their participation underscored the strategic importance of this collaboration and the shared commitment to innovation, inclusion, and patient-centered care. This partnership solidifies Muscat Private Hospital’s status as a forward-thinking institution dedicated to healthcare excellence, while Qpay continues to spearhead Oman’s fintech revolution, empowering consumers with smarter financial tools. Together, both organisations are paving the way for a future where quality healthcare is not only accessible but also financially manageable for everyone.

ACCESS TO PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CARE



Taageer Finance, AutoSpa announce partnership to offer convenient automotive care financing solutions

MUSCAT: In a strategic move aimed at enhancing customer convenience and access to premium automotive care and detailing solutions, Taageer Finance Company has partnered with AutoSpa, one of Oman’s largest and most luxurious vehicle detailing center. The collaboration introduces easy and flexible financing options for AutoSpa customers, making it simpler for vehicle owners to access world-class car detailing and protection services. With a reputation built over more than a decade, AutoSpa is recognized for its uncompromising quality, meticulous attention to detail, and use of globally acclaimed products and techniques. From advanced ceramic coatings and paint protection to full-service interior and exterior detailing, AutoSpa delivers an exceptional experience designed to elevate vehicle aesthetics and longevity. Through this partnership, Taageer Finance will enable customers to spread the cost of AutoSpa’s premium services through Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs), helping them maintain their vehicles without the burden of upfront payments. This financing solution aligns with both companies’ commitment to delivering quality, value, and ease to a growing segment of discerning customers in Oman. Commenting on the partnership, Fahad Khamis Al Bulushi,

Acting Chief Executive Officer of Taageer Finance, averred: “At Taageer Finance, we are always looking to enhance the customer experience by offering innovative and practical financing solutions. Our partnership with AutoSpa allows us to extend our value proposition to a new category of clients who prioritize excellence in automotive care. We believe this collaboration will not only support AutoSpa’s growth but also contribute to setting new benchmarks in the vehicle care industry in Oman.” AutoSpa’s commitment to excellence, paired with Taageer’s trusted financing expertise, is expected to drive greater customer engagement and satisfaction. The collaboration also reflects a wider industry trend where luxury services are becoming more accessible through well-structured financial solutions. Sheikh Al Sult Salim Al Khalili, Board Member, Al Khalili Group, which owns AutoSpa, stated: “We are delighted to join hands with Taageer Finance to offer our customers added flexibility when accessing our premium car care solutions. This partnership is a step forward in enhancing the overall customer journey – combining AutoSpa’s dedication to quality and precision with Taageer’s proven strength in consumer financing. Together, we aim to ensure that every vehicle gets the care it deserves, without compromise.”

ESCAPE THE SUMMER HEAT

Khareef wonders await at Alila Hinu Bay

MUSCAT: Salalah’s hidden gem, Alila Hinu Bay at the original capital city of Mirbat is celebrating the southeastern monsoon season, known as ‘Khareef’. Admire the most interesting historical locations of the region, along the coast and the spectacular piedmont of Jabal Samhan and rediscover the beauty of nature through the senses, as Dhofar celebrates its most striking season where desert springs, waterfalls and blankets of green flora come to life during ‘Khareef’. Perched just by the coast, with a natural private beach and mountain vistas, the resort promises a relaxing escape for all. Alila Hinu Bay delivers a unique experience, where guests can enjoy an intimate weekend staycation or a family holiday. Visit the coastal town of Mirbat and see fishermen set sail on traditional boats or discover incredible ancient Bedouin rock art, dating back to the 3rd millennium BC. With a host of unusual and once-in-a-lifetime



experiences, guests can share an evening with traditional desert nomads, tread the trail of an age-old Frankincense route, and embrace the dewy excitement of a mystifying Khareef. Alila Hinu Bay is ideally situated close to the historic port of Khor Rori, from where the first Frankincense treasures departed many

centuries ago. The property pays homage to the heritage and cultural significance of the Frankincense Route with the launch of The Orchard restaurant’s menu inspired by all-things-Luban. The Orchard takes you on an epicurean journey with carefully selected and crafted dishes that draw inspiration from the travels of the frankincense

traders both land and sea. Savor the breadth and expanse of the trade route with menu highlights from Oman, through the Arabian Peninsula, all the way to the Mediterranean. For those looking for a refreshing getaway, indulge in comfort as you relax in one of the resort’s expansive rooms or spacious villas, equipped with a private pool and tranquil outdoor bathtub. Guests can also enjoy a complimentary breakfast, special deals on Alila Spa Treatments such as the 60-minute Timeless Frankincense Signature Escape, and courtesy resort activities throughout the week. Whether it’s a delectable breakfast, healthy lunch or intimate dinner under the stars, the property boasts two signature restaurants, Sea Salt, serving signature Asian cuisine and The Orchard, offering an array of international specialties, presented through an A La Carte menu with flavorful ingredients all locally sourced.

SIX SHOWROOMS IN GCC

Malabar Gold & Diamonds launches ‘Mojawhraty’; new retail concept for Arabic jewellery

MUSCAT: Malabar Gold & Diamonds has unveiled Mojawhraty by Malabar, the brand’s latest retail concept dedicated exclusively to Arabic jewellery. In the GCC region, Mojawhraty by Malabar has launched 6 showrooms; 2 showrooms in the UAE at Dalma Mall & Ajman City Centre, 2 showrooms in Bahrain at Bahrain City Centre & Bab Al Bahrain and 1 showroom each in the KSA & Oman at Nakheel Mall, Dammam and Muthra Souq respectively. The second showroom of Mojawhraty by Malabar in the UAE at Dalma Mall was inaugurated by Chairman of Malabar Group, M.P Ahammad, in the presence of Vice Chairman, Abdul Salam K.P; MD-International Operations, Shamlal Ahamed; Senior Director of Malabar Group, Mayankutty C; Director of Finance & Admin, Ameer CMC;



Head of Manufacturing, Faisal A.K; Business Head of Arabic Value Chain, Sherif Abdelmonem Meligy Hassanin, other senior

management team members from Malabar Gold & Diamonds, customers and well-wishers. At Mojawhraty by Malabar, each

piece of jewellery is meticulously crafted by master artisans and is available in responsibly sourced 18K, 21K & 22K gold, alongside an exclusive range of ornaments featuring certified natural diamonds. The curated brand portfolio showcases several in-house collections that are reflective of Arabic artistry and the evolving tastes of the modern Arab consumer. Every purchase is also covered under the Mojawhraty Promise, which includes 100% value on diamond exchange, exclusive usage of tested & certified natural diamonds, assured lifetime maintenance, guaranteed buyback and more. Mojawhraty by Malabar has charted an ambitious expansion plans for the coming years, aiming to bring the Mojawhraty experience to a broader clientele of discerning jewellery lovers.

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