

HM THE SULTAN GREETES PRESIDENT OF ROMANIA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to President Klaus Iohannis of Romania on his country's National Day. In the cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Iohannis. His Majesty also wished the friendly people of Romania further progress and prosperity. - **ONA**



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HM THE SULTAN RECEIVES THANKS CABLE FROM KING OF SPAIN

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has received a cable of thanks from King Felipe VI of Spain in reply to His Majesty's greetings cable on his country's National Day. In the cable, King Felipe expressed his sincere appreciation for His Majesty the Sultan's heartfelt sentiments and best wishes. He wished His Majesty the Sultan permanent health and wellbeing and the Omani people further progress and welfare. - **ONA**



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KOREA

HM sends condolences

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea on the death of Chun Doo-hwan, former President of Korea. In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his heartfelt sympathies to President Moon, family of the deceased and the friendly people of Korea. - **ONA**



SAYYID THEYAZIN TO ATTEND FIFA ARAB CUP OPENING FUNCTION

Delegated by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth and his accompanying delegation left on Tuesday heading to the State of Qatar to attend the opening ceremony of FIFA Arab Cup 2021. HH Sayyid Theyazin is accompanied by an official delegation comprising Sayyid Saud Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of State and Governor of Muscat, Dr. Abdullah Nassir Al Harrasi, Minister of Information, Basil Ahmed Al Rawas, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth for Sports and Youth and Najeed Yahya Al Balushi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Qatar. - **ONA**



OMAN (1-1) IRAQ >A7

OMAN SEES ZERO COVID DEATHS FOR 22 CONSECUTIVE DAYS

The total number of new COVID-19 infections in November stood at 263, at an average rate of nine new infections per day

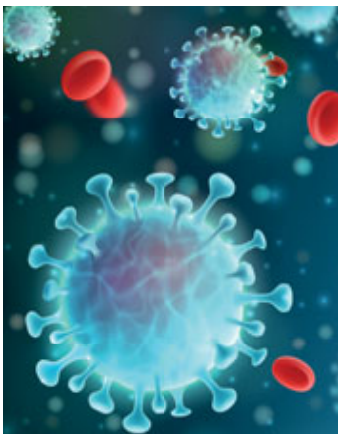
Times News Service

MUSCAT: With less than 265 new infections and two deaths, November has been the best month since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Less than 10 new infections were recorded for 17 days and no deaths were reported consecutively for 22 days.

An official from the Ministry of Health confirmed to the *Times of Oman* that the decrease in COVID-19 cases during the month of November is due to the high rate of vaccination against the coronavirus.

With the higher rate of vaccination, the infections have declined, and the precautionary measures such as washing, sterilising hands, avoiding crowds, wearing masks, have also played a major role in reducing the spread of virus, and the PCR examination for travellers is also very important in ensuring that they are free from infection, he added.

Speaking exclusively to the *Times of Oman*, Ibrahim Al Maimani, data analyst and an activist on social media said, "The total number of new infections in November reached 263, at a rate



373
new patients recovered
in November at an
average rate of 12 new
recoveries per day

of nine new infections per day, and this rate is the lowest since April 2020. On the other hand, 373 new patients recovered with an average of 12 new recoveries per day. The number of patients decreased to 436 with a slight increase in the cure rate of 98.51 per cent."

In terms of hospitalised patients Al Maimani said that there was a decrease in the number of inpatients in hospitals by 43 per cent.

At the end of October there were seven patients, a number that decreased to four by the end of November, he added.

"As for the intensive care patients, their number also decreased, reaching three patients towards the end of October and after the end of November only one patient remains in hospital. This has happened only for the first time since the beginning of the pandemic," he added.

>A5

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

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1 Amid COVID protocols, people in the Sultanate of Oman enjoyed the National Day holidays which ended on Monday. >A3

WORLD Barbados becomes republic now

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MARKET Asyad paves way for logistics sector

3 The logistics sector has been part of the Oman government's vision since the dawn of the Renaissance as an enabler of growth. >B1

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TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....12:01pm
Asr.....3:04pm
Maghrib.....5:25pm
Isha.....6:39pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....5:13am

'PRESS OSCAR'

Oman hosts Foreign Press Association's annual awards ceremony

LONDON: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Information, Oman 2040 Vision Follow up Unit and Oman Embassy in the United Kingdom, hosted the Foreign Press Association (FPA)'s annual awards ceremony 'Press Oscar' here on Tuesday.

Dr. Abdullah Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information, said in an online speech that His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik considers youth as "the wealth of nations and its inexhaustible resource" and that "Oman is a country in transformation" across different development sectors.

Dr. Abdullah added that Oman attaches great significance to its "close, Royal, diplomatic and cultural relationship with the UK" and values the role of the FPA, the oldest media organisation of its kind in the world, founded in 1888.

The minister affirmed that the Sultanate of Oman is pressing ahead with its economic diversification programme (Oman Vision 2040). "We are pushing forward with an ambitious programme of diversification, our Vision 2040, to build a sustainable economy for future generations. Our future will be powered by innovation," he explained.

In the same context, Dr. Abdullah said that "Oman is a land of opportunities for investors seeking stability and prosperity in the Middle East. It is a trusted, open and innovative business partner; as well as a gentle facilitator on the diplomatic stage".

The minister highlighted Oman's drive to become a global leader in renewable energy, given the abundance of resources. "We are striving to be a world leader in renewable energy technology. We are blessed with an abundance of solar and wind," said Dr. Abdullah. He also laid emphasis on Oman's strong potential to effectively contribute to the growth of the regional and international economy, thanks to its long coast line and deep-rooted maritime history.

"We are attracting discerning tourists from all over the world," said Dr. Abdullah, who underscored Oman's preparedness to receive tourists from different countries of the world due to the country's pristine beaches, hills and dells and great diversity of wildlife and marine resources.

Kate McCure, President of FPA, and Deborah Bonetti, Director of FPA, hailed the Sultanate of Oman's support for the local and international press.

FPA member Robert Moore won the Best Journalist Award 2021. Moore saw Oman's hosting this year's FPA Award Ceremony as a message that reflects the importance of promoting journalism and extends all necessary means of empowerment of journalists to enable them to practice their profession.

By hosting the FPA celebration in London this year, Oman seeks to showcase Oman Vision 2040 and the country's tourist, economic, investment and cultural resources.



— ONA Dr. Abdullah Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information. — ONA

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BY AMMAR AL NAAIMI

Novel delves into urban action fantasy

MUSCAT: The Omani Author Ammar Mahfoodh Al Naaimi recently published Sarim, an urban action fantasy taking place in Muscat, 2019.

Sarim is a 352-page fantasy novel exploring themes of overcoming self-loathing, exploring oneself, and how empowering the youth is truly the way towards brighter horizons. It follows the action-packed adventures of Mishal, a 15-year-old aiming to protect humans from malicious jinn.

The novel's cover art was provided by Mohammed Al Attar. Furthermore, Sarim is available through local distributors such as Family Books, and local libraries like Al Rudha, Booklands, Pages Muscat, and Suika Art Café. Readers and reviewers commented that Sarim was the first time they'd been exposed to fantasy revolving around Oman.

— ONA

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Amid COVID protocols, Omanis enjoy 51st National Day holidays

Some people spent the holidays inside the Sultanate of Oman while others travelled abroad for entertainment and enjoyment

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Amid COVID protocols, people in Oman enjoyed the National Day holidays which ended on Monday.

Omani citizen, Yasir Al Badi said, "My little family and I spent our vacation in Muscat governorate, which is full of beautiful historic and tourist attractions."

The 51st National Day holiday was declared on Sunday and Monday, November 28 and November



29, 2021, so some people decided to spend it inside the Sultanate of Oman and others outside it for entertainment and enjoyment.

Yasir Al Badi from the wilayat of Saham in North Al Batinah governorate said that "my little family and I spent our vacation in the Muscat governorate, which is full of beautiful historic and tourist attractions. We visited Al Mouj Muscat, which is one of the most unique destinations in the governorate, which includes a large number of residential and commercial facilities, as well as golf courses for entertainment. We also visited the beautiful Qurum Beach and Star-

bucks overlooking the beach for drinking coffee and eating sweets."

"We also visited the Oman Aquarium, it is one of the most beautiful and unique destinations that people from different countries visit to see different types of marine animals. In addition to old Muscat, its forts, its different parks, Riyam Park for kids to play in and Al Alam Palace. We visited the beautiful Barr Al Jissah Resort and rode one of the tourist boats that serve visitors from different countries of the world to see the beauty of the place. The last stop of our trip was Marina Bandar Al Rawda in the Sadab area in the



wilayat of Muscat to see the beauty of the night," Yasir Al Badi added.

Noor Al Jahwari from the wilayat of Suwaiq in the North Al Batinah governorate said, "I visited the wilayat of Bidyah, located in the north of Al Sharqiyah, characterised by cool air and the beautiful golden sand, which is the focus of attention for many visitors from inside and outside the Sultanate. I rode the camel and the motorbike to walk around the place and see the aesthetics of the place. There are many beautiful camps that serve visitors to spend time overnight instead of hotels."

About the food Noor added, "I ate breakfast and lunch in restau-

rants characterised by simplicity and old design, and for dinner, I prepared delicious grills."

Ayat Al Sabri, from the wilayat of Sohar in the North Al Batinah governorate, said, "My family and I decided to go to the United Arab Emirates, specifically Dubai, to spend the National Day holiday. We headed to Dubai on Thursday at 4 pm. We visited the famous Burj Khalifa building, which is the tallest in the world at a height of 829.8 meters. Burj Khalifa makes you see the city in its splendour and beauty, especially at night."

"We also visited the Global Village, which includes all the cultures of the world in one place and enables visitors to shop and eat different foods from most countries of the world and entertainment. Visitors move between the corners of the village like those who boarded a transcontinental train. We also watched theatrical performances, circus shows, and roving band performances," Ayat said.

Speaking about visiting the Expo Dubai, Ayat said, "On Friday morning we went to Expo Dubai 2020 where more than 190 coun-

tries showcased their cultures and innovations inside architecturally stunning pavilions. We also visited Dubai Creek, where the boats are located along the creek, and we toured the creek through the ships there to serve visitors in addition to transporting goods."

Water Park

Ayat also visited other tourist places in Dubai, with family. "We visited Dubai Miracle Garden, where many floral compositions and structures adorn this enchanting place. Dubai Miracle Garden is also considered one of the most beautiful gardens in Dubai in the world and one of the most beautiful tourist places in Dubai for walking and resting."

"On Saturday, we headed to Wild Wadi Water Park Dubai, which is one of the most exciting water parks in Dubai. The last stop of our beautiful trip was Dubai Mall, as it is the main commercial centre in the city and one of the most beautiful tourist attractions in Dubai. There is an ice skating rink, a games area and a complex cinematic experience in addition to shopping and dining," Ayat added.

VISIT

Qatari military college commander visits NDC

MUSCAT: Maj. Gen Fahad Mubarak Al Khayareen, Commander of Joann bin Jassim Joint Command and Staff College of the State of Qatar, visited the National Defence College (NDC) on Tuesday.

Upon his arrival, the Qatari military official was received by Air Vice Marshal Eng. Saleh Yahya Al Maskari, NDC Commandant.

The guest was briefed on the college's facilities and equipment,



as well as various departments and halls designed according to the latest specifications and equipped

with the best educational systems, training aids and multi-purpose electronic network systems. -ONA

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OIA continues to ramp up its global investment portfolio

MUSCAT: Mulham Basheer Al Jarf, Deputy Chairman of Oman Investment Authority (OIA), has said that the OIA succeeded in enhancing its international investments by entering into 20 new ventures in different sectors, including mining, logistics, healthcare and space technology.

The investments, aimed to bolster the OIA's portfolio, are implemented in 36 countries and enable the authority to make gains, despite the adverse impacts of COVID-19 on the global economy, said Al Jarf, in a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA).

He added that the importance of the investments lies in empowering Oman and consolidating its ability to carry out its fiscal balance plans.

Since 2016, the OIA pumped OMR5 billion into the State's general finance and thus covered a portion of the deficit resulting from the slump in oil prices, said Al Jarf, noting the OIA earned profits without resorting to the liquidation of its assets.

In the meantime, the OIA managed to attract direct foreign investments through its international partners, besides transferring to Oman advanced international

techniques to serve strategic sectors like mining, logistics, food and space communications, to name a few, Al Jarf affirmed.

The OIA seeks to maximize revenues to build financial reserves and surpluses to help contribute to fiscal sustainability in the Sultanate of Oman, said Al Jarf.

In reply to a query about OIA's major investments, Al Jarf said that the authority succeeded in acquiring the full quota of SpaceX specialised space and satellite communications and technologies.

This will place Oman on the lead to utilize SpaceX technologies,

open wide visas for global investments, provide employment opportunities and hone its expertise in economic diversification initiatives, Al Jarf explained.

He added that, in the logistics sector, the OIA possesses 35 percent of Kumpart container port in Turkey (which handles more than 1.2 million containers per annum), acting in partnership with Chinese investment firms.

The OIA is also investing in Bharat Port in Mumbai, India in partnership with Singaporean firms to operate a container terminal whose capacity stands at 4.8

million containers a year, he added.

Other OIA international investments include a tie-up with Kenmir company engaged in mining and production of titanium ore and managing about 10 percent of global titanium reserves. Recently, Kenmir implemented investment projects that saw its shares soar by 50 percent, the highest in years.

Meanwhile, the OIA succeeded in completing gradual withdrawal from some international investments and generated withdrawal returns equal to triple the value of its investments there, said Al Jarf.

-ONA



THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS TO THIS WEEKEND'S HIMAM TRAIL RUN RACE



MUSCAT: On December 3, more than 420 trail runners will take their place on the start line at Birkat Al Mouz for an endurance test as the second Himam Trail Run Race gets underway. Runners from 35 countries have registered for the event, including over 40 female participants, surpassing the previous inaugural edition.

The expanded field of runners will begin at 6.15am, with the first athletes taking part in the 20km race that is due to finish after four hours. Runners completing the 35km course have eight hours to finish and those taking part in the 70km race must finish within 18 hours.

Local favourites Hamdan Al Khatri, Sami Al Saidi, Saleh Al Saidi, Adil Al Subaihi and Abdel Nasser Al Riyami, will join notable international ultra-trail marathon runners including eight-time winner of the Marathon des Sables, Rachid El Murabity of Morocco, and three-time Oman Desert Marathon medallist Evgenii Glyva from Ukraine on the 70km course.

Each race has been meticulously-designed to include traditional walkways and a variety of terrains to challenge even the most experienced of runners. All three courses feature steep climbs from 350m to 2210m through the village of Al Mahyadin and nearby date plantations before turning for home and concluding with a gentle descent to the finishing line.

The 70km race this year is recognised by the International Trail Running Association (ITRA) and carries three points for each finisher which help towards ranking positions and entry into the world's toughest ultra-trail marathon races.

The Himam Trail Run Race is organised by Himam Adventure, under the umbrella of Al Sahwa Team, Nizwa Club, and supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth, and the Oman Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, and the Authority for SME Development (Riyada) in Al Dakhiliyah.

The event is sponsored by Petroleum Development Oman, gold sponsors Oman LNG, Ooredoo and bp Oman, and silver sponsors Golden Tulip Nizwa and Mazoon Dairy.

For updates on the race, follow @himam_adventure on Instagram.



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SQU to celebrate graduation of 2,962 students

The first day will see the graduation of 1,498 students from the College of Arts and Social Sciences, the College of Economics and Political Science, and the College of Engineering

MUSCAT: Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) will celebrate the graduation of 2,962 students of the 31st batch on 6 and 8 December 2021 under the auspices of Dr. Rahma Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

The first day will see the graduation of 1,498 students from the College of Arts and Social Sciences,



GRADUATION: 2,715 students representing the 32nd batch will graduate on 13 and 15 December 2021, in a ceremony to be held under the auspices of Dr. Mahad Said Ba'Owain, Minister of Labour.

es, the College of Economics and Political Science, and the College of Engineering.

As many as 1,464 students from the College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences, the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, the College of Nursing, the College of Science, the College of Education and the College of Law will graduate in the second day.

Meanwhile, 2,715 students representing the 32nd batch will graduate on 13 and 15 December 2021, in a ceremony to be held under the auspices of Dr. Mahad

Said Ba'Owain, Minister of Labour. On the first day, the ceremony will witness the graduation of 1,369 students from the College of Arts and Social Sciences, the College of Education and the College of Engineering.

On the second day, 1,346 students will graduate from the College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences, the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, the College of Nursing, the College of Science, the College of Economics and Political Science, and the College of Law. -ONA

FOR CHILDREN FIRST ASSOCIATION

Fund raising event held in Muscat

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Nautilus Volunteer Association has raised OMR6,263 for Children First Association as part of the first Nautilus Swimathon hosted at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex on 20 November 2021.

Organised by the captain of Nautilus Swimming Club and President of the Nautilus Volunteer Association, Eva Bonde, it was the first-of-its-kind event in the Sultanate of Oman.

Donations were raised to support the Children First Association. At the conclusion of the Swimathon competition, Eva Bonde, on behalf of Nautilus Volunteers Association, presented a check of OMR6,263 to Dr Maghda Al Hinai and Dr Khoud Al Balushi representing the Children First Association.

It was a wonderful imitative on part of the swimmers and volun-



teers for a successful fundraising event for Children First Association as it provides care for children from infancy to 18 years of age.

Based upon the success of this event, Children First Association, Nautilus Volunteers Association and Nautilus Swimming Club have established a long term relationship.

Future joint events are in planning stages and will include providing swim lessons to children needing financial assistance so that they can swim safely. The sponsors of this event, Yuzu Agriculture, Grand Hyatt Muscat, and Nourish Kitchen were recognised for their outstanding support to the amazingly successful event.

COVID-19

<FROM A1> Number of hospitalised patients continues to fall

With regard to deaths, Al Maimani said, "Two deaths were recorded in November, and it is worth noting that zero deaths were recorded for 28 days during this month."

"The total deaths in October reached 15, as opposed to the month of September, when 32 people died."

As for the hospitalised patients in the last 24 hours, he confirmed that "the numbers continued to decline to less than four patients from the beginning of November until the end of the month. It was also noted that no hospitalisation was recorded during the last five days, which is a very positive indicator."



OPERA AND CLASSICAL BALLET

ROHM announces sale of tickets for 2022 season

MUSCAT: The Royal Opera House Muscat (ROHM) announced that tickets are now on sale for the upcoming 2022 season.

Tickets for all performances across the season, which will be held from January 2022 to May 2022, can be booked via the newly relaunched app, the Box Office in the opera house foyer or on the website.



TICKETS ON SALE: Tickets for all performances across the season, can be booked via the newly relaunched app, the Box Office. -ONA

Shows

The 2022 season features a broad range of performances from Opera and Classical Ballet to family events, acrobatic shows, stars of

the Arab music scene and concerts from world-renowned orchestras and international artists. All shows will be performed

with full adherence to the precautionary measures set by the COVID-19 Supreme Committee. -ONA

STATE AUDIT INSTITUTION



Oman participates in Arab anti-corruption convention

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the State Audit Institution, participated in the regional workshop of the 3rd session of the Arab Anti-Corruption Convention.

The online workshop, held during 29-30 November 2021, was organized by the Oversight and Anti-Corruption Authority of the

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The event saw the participation of representatives of Arab anti-corruption authorities, as well as experts and researchers specialised in the field of integrity and anti-corruption.

The workshop reviewed a number of main themes, including presentations about the proposed mechanism to follow-up the implementation of the Arab Anti-Corruption Convention, besides discussing the convention's self-evaluation questions and views in preparation for its endorsement. -ONA

ARABIAN GAZELLES

Several arrested for illegal hunting

MUSCAT: The Environment Authority said that the Directorate General of Environment in Dhofar, in cooperation with the ROP arrested people who have violated wildlife protection rules by hunting 2 Arabian gazelles and some birds. Legal procedures will be completed against them and the equipment will be confiscated.

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Barbados removes Queen Elizabeth II as head of state, becomes republic

Dame Sandra Mason was inaugurated as the first president of the Caribbean country, having been elected by a two-thirds majority vote in the Barbadian parliament



BRIDGETOWN: Barbados removed Britain's Queen Elizabeth II as head of state at midnight local time on Monday. The Royal Standard flag that represents the queen was lowered in the capital Bridgetown in a ceremony that coincides with the country's 55th year of independence.

Dame Sandra Mason was inaugurated as the first president of the Caribbean country, having been elected by a two-thirds majority vote in the Barbadian parliament.

In attendance at the celebrations was Prince Charles, heir apparent to the British throne, who arrived in the country on Sunday.

"We the people must give Republic Barbados its spirit and its substance," Mason said in an

address. "We must shape its future. We are each other's and our nation's keepers. We the people are Barbados."

After a display of dance and music from the island, Barbadian singer Rihanna was declared a national hero by Prime Minister Mia Mottley, who led Barbados' republican movement.

Who is Barbados's new president?

Mason had previously served as governor-general of Barbados, representing the queen in the former Commonwealth realm. She is an attorney and judge who also served as ambassador to Venezuela, Colombia, Chile and Brazil.

"We have just elected among us a woman who is uniquely and passionately Barbadian...I can think therefore of no better person at this juncture of our nation," said Prime Minister Mottley, praising the new president.

Barbados is the first Caribbean country to abolish its monarchy since the 1970s, when Guyana, Dominica, and Trinidad and Tobago became republics. The last time Queen Elizabeth was removed as head of state was in 1992 when Mauritius proclaimed itself a republic.

Although the country ceases to be a Commonwealth realm with Queen Elizabeth as its sovereign, it will remain within the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of

54 countries of which both republics and monarchies are members.

Barbados is currently facing economic turmoil caused by the COVID-19 pandemic that has exposed an over-reliance on tourism.

How did Barbados become a British colony?

British ships reached Barbados some 400 years ago and transformed it into a sugar colony. British colonists shipped over captured African slaves to work the island's sugar cane fields, and nowadays the majority of Barbados's population is of African descent.

Barbados had previously been inhabited by the Taino and Caribbean indigenous peoples. **bw**



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Parag Agrawal joins list of Indian-origin executives heading top tech firms

WASHINGTON: The elevation of Parag Agrawal as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Twitter has once again highlighted the fact that many prominent global technology companies are headed by Indian-origin techies.

The 37-year-old computer scientist with a PhD from Stanford following Jack Dorsey's surprise resignation. Agrawal has joined the likes of Google CEO Sundar Pichai, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella and IBM CEO Arvind Krishna, who all are at the helm of global tech.

There are several other Indians at top of global firms. Rajeev Suri was elevated to President and CEO of Nokia in April 2014 after Microsoft acquired the company.

While Shantanu Narayen has been heading Adobe as CEO since 2007, SanDisk was co-founded by Indian-American businessman Sanjay Mehrotra. Nikesh Arora, the ex-CEO of investment firm Softbank now heads security firm Palo Alto Networks as its

chairman and CEO.

With this, Twitter is the new addition to the tech giants to be led by an Indian.

Parag, aged 37, is an alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology Mumbai where he did his Bachelors in Engineering in computer science. He moved to the US for further studies, with his doctorate coming from Stanford University based in California.

Further, Parag joined Twitter in 2011. Before that, he briefly worked at Microsoft, AT&T and Yahoo. In all three companies, his work was mostly research-oriented. Initially, at Twitter, he worked on ad-related products, but gradually he also dabbled in artificial intelligence.

Earlier, Dorsey announced that he was resigning as CEO of Twitter and that Agrawal was replacing him.

"Parag has been behind every critical decision that helped turn this company around. He's curious, probing, rational, creative, demanding, self-aware and humble," Dorsey posted on his Twitter account. **am**

DEFERRED

Myanmar court defers verdict of deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi

NAYPYITAW: A court in Myanmar deferred an initial verdict in the trial of deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi to December 6 on Tuesday.

The charges against her include incitement against the ruling military and breaking COVID-19 protocols.

It will be the first ruling since

her ousting and arrest following a military coup on February 1.

The former Nobel laureate also faces several other charges that could see her spend the rest of her life in prison if convicted.

Days after the coup Suu Kyi was charged with possessing unlicensed walkie-talkies and violating coronavirus restrictions during the 2020 elections.

Since then, the military junta has added a number of other charges, including violating the colonial-era Official Secrets Act and electoral fraud. She is also accused of having accepted illegal payments of gold and \$600,000 (€493,000) in cash.

In recent weeks, other high-

ranking members of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) have been indicted with various charges. A former chief minister, Than Naing, was sentenced to 75 years earlier this month, and Suu Kyi aide U Win Htein received a 20-year sentence. Former president Win Myint, ousted along with Suu Kyi, is

also facing charges.

The United States and experts from the United Nations have condemned the indictments and demanded the defendants' release.

Suu Kyi led the NLD to victory in the 2015 general election, the first democratic vote in Myanmar in 25 years.

Between 1989 and 2012, she spent a total of 15 years under house arrest. While confined to her family's colonial-era mansion in Yangon, Suu Kyi would appear to thousands gathered on the other side of her garden fence.

She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 in recognition of her struggle for democracy. **bw**



Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

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

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-refundable)
23/2021	Design & implementation work for two halls in MOSD HQ	Companies specialized in building contracting and registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board in the first degree	Monday 20-12-2021 02:00 PM	Sunday 9-1-2022 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

- ❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Wednesday 1/12/2021
- ❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.
- ❖ For Inquiry , please contact through the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402200)

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

www.mosd.gov.om

OMICRON VARIANT

Singapore tightens border measures amid spread of new COVID-19 variant



SINGAPORE: Amid the rising concerns of the new COVID-19 variant 'Omicron', Singapore on Tuesday imposed a series of measures to prevent the spread of the virus, and also paused the relaxing of social measures.

According to *The Straits Times*, the relaxation of social measures will be paused, and travellers entering Singapore will face stricter rules from 11.59 pm (local time) on Thursday. On Tuesday, the country's Ministry of Health (MoH) said that while no cases of Omicron, found in South Africa last week, have been detected locally, "pre-emptive" measures are needed for Singapore to assess the implications of the new variant.

"They will also help to reduce the risk of important of the virus, said the Singapore-based newspaper," said MoH.

MoH said that it will also conduct a one-time PCR testing exercise for surveillance purposes, for travellers who arrived in Singapore between November 12 and 27, and had been to the countries or regions affected by Omicron in the 14 days before their arrival.

The new Omicron variant, which has been detected first in South Africa, has escalated tensions across the world as it is considered more dangerous than the delta variant. It has been declared as a 'variant of concern' by the World Health Organization (WHO). From 11.59 pm (local time) on Thursday, air travellers arriving on the quarantine-free Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) scheme will have to undergo supervised, self-administered antigen rapid tests at a Quick Test Centre on Days 3 and 7 of their

arrival in Singapore. Currently, these travellers only have to take a COVID-19 swab test prior to their departure for Singapore, and after arrival here, The Straits Times reported. It further noted that all air travellers entering, transferring or transiting through Singapore must have tested negative in a pre-departure test within two days of leaving for Singapore.

Currently, travellers from Hong Kong, Macau, China and Taiwan are not required to take pre-departure tests, and only need to take a Covid-19 swab test upon arrival. These places are in Category 1 of MoH's risk classification framework, which means they have the lowest risk of COVID-19 infections.

The Singapore-based newspaper noted that all travellers must take a COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) on arrival. This will affect non-VTL travellers entering Singapore who are not from Hong Kong, Macau,

China and Taiwan. Currently, they do not have to take a test upon arrival but have to be tested before the end of their stay-home notice period.

Meanwhile, upcoming VTLs with six countries - Thailand, Cambodia, Fiji, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Turkey - will be postponed. These VTLs were due to start around the middle of December, The Straits Times reported. Following the emergence of the COVID-19 variant 'Omicron', the United Kingdom was the first to halt flights from South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho and Eswatini.

Several other countries including the United States, the Philippines, Spain, Israel, Austria, Morocco have imposed travel restrictions from Africa.

Besides, Canada has also banned the entry of foreign nationals who have travelled to the southern Africa region over the last 14 days. **am**



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جدول النقاط
POINTS TABLE



Group A	P	D	W	L	GF	GA	PT	المجموعة أ
Oman	1	1	00	00	1	1	1	عمان
Iraq	1	1	00	00	1	1	1	العراق
Bahrain	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	البحرين
Qatar	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	قطر

Group B	P	D	W	L	GF	GA	PT	المجموعة ب
Tunisia	1	00	1	00	5	1	3	تونس
UAE	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	الإمارات
Syria	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	سوريا
Mauritania	1	00	00	1	1	5	00	موريتانيا

Group C	P	D	W	L	GF	GA	PT	المجموعة ج
Morocco	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	المغرب
Saudi Arabia	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	السعودية
Jordan	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	الأردن
Palestine	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	فلسطين

Group D	P	D	W	L	GF	GA	PT	المجموعة د
Algeria	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	الجزائر
Egypt	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	مصر
Lebanon	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	لبنان
Sudan	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	السودان

Played, Draw, Won, Lost, Goals For, Goals Against, Points
لعب، فوز، تعادل، خسارة، أهداف لصالح، أهداف ضد، النقاط

مباريات اليوم
TODAY'S MATCHES

الجزائر
ALGERIA

14:00

السودان
SUDAN

مصر
EGYPT

17:00

لبنان
LEBANON

المغرب
MOROCCO

20:00

فلسطين
PALESTINE

السعودية
S. ARABIA

23:00

الأردن
JORDAN

OMAN HELD TO A 1-1 DRAW BY IRAQ

Times News Service

DOHA: The match between Oman and Iraq in the FIFA Arab Cup Championship ended in a 1-1 draw in Doha on Tuesday.

Salah Al Yahyaei scored for Oman from a penalty kick and Iraqi player Hasan Abdulkarim equalised from a penalty kick for his team.

The match was played at the 40,000 capacity Al Janoub Stadium, one of the iconic stadiums to host FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 matches.

The first half of the match ended in a 0-0 draw despite several attempts from both teams to score. During the second half, Mohsin Jawher missed a scoring chance in the 52nd minute.

The coach of Oman's national team made three substitutes during the match. Abdullah Fawaz played instead of Mohsin Jawher; Al Munther Al Alawi was replaced with Esam Al Subhi and Jamil Al Yahmadi replaced Arshad Al Alawi. Coach of the Iraqi team

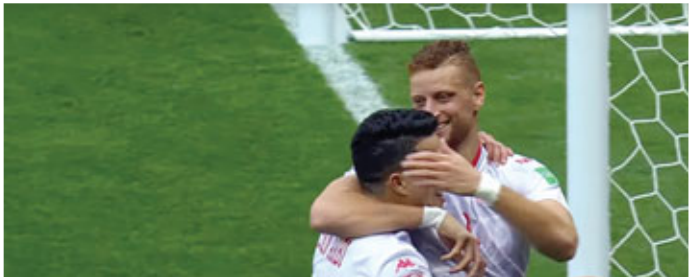


also made three replacements. In the 76th minute, Salah Al Yahyaei scored from a penalty kick and Hasan Abdulkarim scored for the Iraqi team from a penalty kick to end the match in a 1-1 draw.

Oman national team comprised Ahmed Al Rawahi (Goalkeeper), Jumah Al Habsi, Ahmed Al Khamisi, Ahmed Al Ka'abi, Amjad Al Harthi, Hareb Al Saadi, Salah Al Yahyaei, Mohsin Jawher, Jamil Al Yahmadi, Mohsin Al Ghassani and Al Munther Al Alawi.



ENCOUNTER



Tunisia thrash Mauritania 5-1

DOHA: Tunisia defeated Mauritania 5-1 in the match played on Tuesday between the two teams at Ahmed Bin Ali Stadium, in the first match of the FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021, which will be hosted by Qatar until December 18, with the participation of 16 teams, under the supervision of FIFA.

Seifeddine Jaziri (two goals), Firas Belarabi (two goals), and

Youssef Msakni (one goal) scored goals for the Tunisian team, while the only goal of the Mauritanian team was by Moulay Bessam scored from a penalty kick.

The Tunisian team secured their first 3 points at the beginning of the campaign in their group, which also includes the UAE and Syria teams. The Mauritanian team remained with zero points. -QNA

FIFA ARAB CUP

Saudi Arabia to face Jordan today

DOHA: Saudi Arabia and Jordan will face each others on Wednesday at the Education City Stadium in Group C in the 10th edition of the FIFA Arab Cup Qatar 2021, which started on Tuesday.

The Saudi team is looking forward to continuing its strong performances as it topped Group B in the Asian qualifiers with 16 points, four points ahead of its closest competitor, Japan, to go a long way towards reaching the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

The Saudi team has a long history in the Arab Cup, as it is the second most successful team in the championship. The Saudi team won the cup twice, behind Iraq, which was crowned on four previous occasions, and the last participation of the Saudi team in FIFA Arab Cup dates back to the 9th edition which was held in the



cities of Jeddah and Taif in 2012. In Group C, which includes Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Palestine, chances are strongest for Morocco and Saudi Arabia, while Jordan and Palestine have a chance to surprise all.

The FIFA Arab Cup will witness four consecutive matches in different stadiums. -QNA



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Women's cricket team of England arrives in Oman for training camp

The training camp in Oman is aimed at acclimatizing the team with the weather prior to their tour of Australia

MUSCAT: Close on the heels of the successful co-hosting of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, Oman Cricket has announced that the England women's cricket team has arrived in Oman for a pre-Ashes warm-weather training camp in the Sultanate from November 30 to December 12, 2021.

The England team will be touring Australia for the Women's Ashes in January-February 2022, which will include one Test, three T20 Internationals and three One-Day Internationals. The training camp in Oman is aimed at acclimatizing the team with the weather prior to their tour of Australia.



PRE-ASHES TRIP: All facilities have been made available for the England team. As the COVID situation continues to evolve, Oman Cricket has put in place stringent protocols.

All facilities have been made available for the England team. As the COVID situation continues to evolve, Oman Cricket has put in place stringent protocols for the squad's two-week camp in the Sultanate. Duleep Mendis, Chief Development Officer of Oman Cricket, said: "We

welcome the England Women's Cricket team to Oman for their pre-Ashes training camp. We will provide all necessary support as part of their preparations for the tour to Australia, besides given them a chance to experience Oman's culture and hospitality. We hope that they experience

our emerging passion for cricket and our efforts on making Oman the next big cricketing hub for every country. Hosting the England Women's Team helps Oman Cricket to take a step further in developing women's cricket from the grassroots level in Oman as well as the global."

COMMENTARY

So close yet win so far for Team India

ANIS SAJAN
Vice Chairman, Danube Group



New Zealand's last pair of debutant Rachin Ravindra and Ajaz Patel survived 52 balls and bad light to pull off a draw against India's high quality spinners Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel and keep the series at 0/0 going in to the final test at Mumbai.

Before the last day began, there was talks that did stand-in Skipper Ajinkya Rahane delay the declaration and in hindsight it might now come to haunt him as draw in Indian conditions is as good as a win for team New Zealand who have been team India's bogey team for many years now. That too India had won the toss and had put up a decent total of almost 350 runs in the first innings.

More often than not India have won matches whenever they have batted first and this was only the third drawn test match in India in the last five years. New Zealand had to bat 91 overs to either win the game or draw the game and they managed to survive the first session without losing a wicket with night watchman William Somerville and opener Tom Latham surviving the first 30 overs bowled before lunch.

At that time, it looked New

Zealand might go for the target of 284 but lost them in the second session and we're playing for survival. They defied the three Indian spinners on a slow but low track and got crucial 4 points which might help them overall when the final tally of the World Test Championship is made after two years. India might rue the fact that they let the declaration happen too late, who knows what would have happened but no opposition had chased down a target above 250 in the last three decades in India.

Ajinkya Rahane who had a poor match with the bat will also get further flak since India could not win the test match and might have to even sit out once Virat Kohli comes in for the second test match.

Whatever happens in the second test match, the Kiwis have once again proved that they are India's bogey team and India have always found it difficult to get the monkey of their back in every format they have played against them in the last few years.

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Ideal Technology pip Winner's Jotun by six wickets

MUSCAT: Ideal Technology beat Winner's Jotun by six wickets in a D Division match of the Oman Cricket League over the weekend.

Put in to bat after losing the toss, Winner's Jotun were bowled out for 119 in their allotted 20 overs.

Prajeesh was the highest scorer for Winner's Jotun with 26 off 20 balls. Jeyakumar Esakkiappan and Arun Kumar Ganeshan picked up two wickets apiece for Ideal Technology. In reply, Ideal Technology openers started slow and lost their first wicket in the 2nd over. Arun Kumar Ganeshan

steadied the innings, scoring 36 off 33 balls. He was ably supported by Sajil Kareem Vellappilly [34]. The team reached the target of 120 in 17 overs for the loss of four wickets. Joby Abraham Chacko was the pick of the bowlers for Winner's Jotun, taking two wickets for 22 runs.

Brief Scores – Winner's Jotun 119/10 in 20 overs (Prajeesh 26 (20) 6x4; Jeyakumar Esakkiappan – 15/2, Arun Kumar Ganeshan – 24/2) lost to Ideal Technology 120/4 in 17 Overs (Arun Kumar Ganeshan 36 (33) 3x4; Joby Abraham Chacko 22/2) by 6 wickets.

In another high-scoring D Division match of the Oman Cricket League, Safara International got the better of Pitspot by six wickets.

Asked to bat first after losing the toss, Pitspot scored a respectable 175 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 20 overs, with opener Fahad T Hamsa scoring 39 off 23 balls, studded with seven boundaries. Sandesh Pusalkar was the pick of the bowlers for Safara with two wickets for 33 runs.

In reply, Safara International reached the target in the 18th over with loss of 4 wickets, thanks to Yasir Muhammad's innings of 57

runs off 39 balls with four boundaries. Sandesh Pusalkar also starred with the bat, scoring 49 off 31 balls. Fahad T Hamsa, Aneesh Chaziyottil, Mohammed Nasir, Monty Navani picked up one wicket apiece.

In an E Division match of the Oman Cricket League, Y Horizon beat Sam Royals by 39 runs, thanks to a brilliant show by Thiru Mothilal.

Choosing to bat first, Y Horizon set a challenging target of 203 for the loss of eight wickets in their allotted 20 overs. Thiru Mothilal was the star of the innings, smashing a brilliant 101 in 60 balls, stud-

ded with 14 boundaries and 1 six. Nandakumar Nair was the pick of the bowlers for Sam Royals, picking up two for 39.

Sam Royals started steadily but were bowled out for 164 in the 20th over. Nandakumar Nair was the sole major contributor with the bat, scoring 35 in 27 balls. Amar Pal Singh & Sanjay Makwana took 3 wickets each for Y Horizon.

In a F Division match, Earn Trust CT brushed aside Royal Gulf by 83 runs. Electing to bat after winning the toss, Earn Trust set a target of 162 for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs. Opener

Maanas Kapoor led from the front, scored 32 in 24 balls with five boundaries before he was run out. Paily Neil was the pick of the bowlers, taking two wickets for 28 in his allotted four overs.

Royal Gulf in reply could score 79 for the loss of eight wickets in 16.5 overs before conceding the match. Openers Gireesh Nair & Vineesh Raj scored 17 runs each. Mustansar Hussain took two wickets for 16 runs, while Maanas Kapoor also shined with the ball, picking two wickets for 16 runs, while Shameer Khwaja picked two wickets, conceding 20 runs.

BALLON D'OR

Ronaldo slams Ballon d'Or chief over Messi 'lie'

NEW DELHI: Portuguese striker Cristiano Ronaldo has hit out at Ballon d'Or chief Pascal Ferre for claiming that the Manchester United star told him that he wished to retire with more Ballon d'Or than the Argentine superstar Lionel Messi.

Ronaldo posted a lengthy statement on Instagram, saying that he does not wish to win more Ballon d'Or than Messi and his goal is just to make his team win.

"Today's outcome explains why Pascal Ferre's statements last week, when he stated that I confided in him that my only ambition was to finish my career with more Golden Balls than Lionel Messi. He used my name to promote himself and to promote the publication he works for. It is unacceptable that the person responsible for awarding such a prestigious prize could lie in this way, in absolute disrespect for someone who has always respected France Football and the Ballon d'Or," said Ronaldo.

"And he lied again today, justifying my absence from the Gala with an alleged quarantine that has no reason to exist. I always want to congratulate those who win, within the sportsmanship and fair-play that have guided my career since the beginning, and I do it because I'm never against anyone. I always win for myself and for the clubs I represent, I win for myself and for those who love me. I don't win against anyone. The biggest ambition of my career is to win national and international titles for the clubs I represent and for the national team in my country," he added. **-ANI**

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS

The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by January 2022 reaching \$70.62, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by \$2.15 from the price of Monday, which was \$72.77. - OMA

MARKET BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,000.35 points, down 2.86 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.20 per cent at 538.44 points. Voltamp Energy, down 9.57 per cent, was the top loser.

Asyad Group paves the way to make Oman global logistics hub

By implementing best practices and adopting the latest technologies and solutions, Asyad has been able to transform the sector and increase its contribution to the national GDP to 4 per cent in 2020



GLOBAL INTEGRATED LOGISTICS SERVICE: An OMR 1.5 billion enterprise, the global integrated logistics service provider was ranked the fourth biggest logistics company in the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) by Forbes Middle East magazine for the year 2021. - Photo used for illustrative purpose only

MUSCAT: The logistics sector has been part of the Omani government's vision since the dawn of the Renaissance. As an enabler of growth, it has played a key role in diversifying the economy by placing Oman on the global logistics map and attracting Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) and mega-projects with competitive incentives and benefits.

Leading these efforts is Asyad Group, which has been paving the way for Oman's logistics drive since 2016. By implementing best practices and adopting the latest technologies and solutions, it has been able to transform the sector and increase its contribution to the national GDP to 4 per cent in 2020.

An OMR 1.5 billion enterprise, the global integrated logistics service provider was ranked the fourth biggest logistics company in the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) by Forbes Middle East magazine for the year 2021. It operates three deep ports, two free zones and an economic zone in addition to providing full maritime services with one of the largest drydocks in the Middle East. Furthermore, it owns a diversified fleet of 60 vessels, supported by a sea transport network that connects Oman to 86 commercial ports in 40 countries worldwide through an average of 200 direct lines weekly.

The Sultanate of Oman's ports

has proved their resilience against a challenging economic backdrop as they continued to sustainably meet the country's food and medical needs. Port operations and efficiencies remained at an all-time high while new strategic partnerships were forged with a growing list of global shipping lines.

Today, Sohar Port, Port of Salalah and Port of Duqm have become gateways into Oman and important destinations on global trade routes that connect the country to Asian, European and African markets. Oman's medium ports (Suwaiq, Shinas, Khasab and Port of Sultan Qaboos) have also played a crucial role in providing local produce with access

to markets in the region.

Overall, Omani ports' commercial operations and volumes of direct import recorded a 5 per cent increase over the first nine months of 2021 (Q1 to Q3). The number of containers handled reached 3.9 million TEUs, a 3 per cent rise compared to the same period in 2020 while general cargo was 7 per cent more with 41.2 million tonnes. The volume of liquid commodity handling also saw a steady increase of 8 per cent compared to 2020, reaching 15 million tonnes.

Likewise, the free zones in Sohar, Salalah and Khazaen Economic City have been instrumental in bolstering the sector's socio-economic contributions by fostering

a nurturing environment for Omani SMEs and FDIs to grow and prosper. Offering fully integrated logistics solutions supplemented with attractive incentives and benefits, Oman's Free zones are well-equipped to serve the needs of local, regional and international companies today and in the future. Currently, Sohar and Salalah Free zones are home to OMR 2 billion worth of operating projects, with another OMR 450 million worth of projects under construction.

Asyad Shipping and Asyad Drydock have also recorded a solid performance, further highlighting the successful integration of the group's service offering to achieve global competitiveness. The group today owns a growing fleet of more than 60 state-of-the-art vessels with a total capacity of 9 million tonnes, offering dynamic shipping solutions to its customers.

As a result of its strategic vision, Asyad's container shipping line saw a 19 per cent growth in commercial activities over the first nine months of 2021, shipping 261,686 containers, and connecting Oman to markets in the GCC, Indian sub-continent and East Asia. Aiming to better serve the local and regional markets, Asyad Group also purchased 9,600 new containers of which 100 are refrigerated, a sound decision that successfully allowed for the import of food and medical products directly from producing countries. Today, the Oman Container Line is amongst the Alphaliner's top 100 largest container and liner operators in the world based on capacity.

Building a strong reputation in the market, Asyad Drydock serves

customers from 35 countries around the world. The Group's services recorded a remarkable year with a 35 per cent increase in ship repair during the first nine months of 2021. Total projects procured were 143 in comparison to 106 for the same period in 2020.

With its eye on the future, Asyad has been continuously building on its Drydock capacities and capabilities. Today it provides ship-building solutions in addition to maintenance and general vessel repair services, further positioning the Group and Oman as a one-stop-integrated logistics shop.

Serving the increasing demand for e-commerce in the GCC, Asian and African markets, the Group's renowned Asyad Express service is turning all eyes to Oman as it offers customers in 220 destinations a suite of fulfilment and last-mile solutions that capitalize on its integrated operational structure. The centre provides a full packaging and wrapping solution, cold and temperature-controlled storage facilities for both imports and exports, helping individual customers and sellers alike locally and internationally. Catering to the needs of corporates, the centre also offers efficient, reliable and fast mail services to over 230 clients worldwide.

A testament to its efforts to drive the growth of the sector, Asyad Group was named Integrated Logistics Service Company of the Year during the 2021 Logistics & Transport Awards. The award recognised the group's unwavering commitment and dedication during the year to position Oman as a global logistics hub. -OMA

OIL PRICES



Oil gains, bets Opec+ will pause output hike

MELBOURNE: Oil prices climbed on Tuesday, extending a rebound from last week's plunge on growing expectations major producers would pause plans to add crude supply in January amid uncertainty over the severity of the Omicron coronavirus variant.

Brent crude futures climbed 43 cents, or 0.6 per cent, to \$73.91 a barrel at 04:18GMT after gaining 1 per cent on Monday. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures jumped 73 cents, or 1 per cent, to \$70.68 a barrel, adding to a 2.6 per cent rise on Monday.

Oil plunged around 12 per cent on Friday along with other markets on fears the heavily mutated Omicron would spark fresh lockdowns and dent global growth.

The World Health Organisation said on Monday Omicron posed a very high risk of infection surges, and several countries stepped up travel curbs. It is still unclear how severe the new variant is and whether it can resist existing vaccines, Reuters reported.

With the demand outlook under a cloud, expectations are growing that the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, Russia and their allies, together called Opec+, will put on hold plans to add 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) of supply in January.

"We think the group will lean towards pausing output hikes in light of the Omicron variant and the oil stockpile release by major oil consumers," Commonwealth Bank commodities analyst Vivek

Dhar said in a note.

The pressure was already growing within Opec+, due to meet on December 2, to reconsider its supply plan after last week's release of emergency crude reserves by the United States and other major oil-consuming nations to address soaring prices.

"Following the global strategic reserve releases and the announcement of dozens of countries restricting travel to and from South Africa and neighbouring nations, OPEC and its allies can easily justify an output halt or even a slight cut in production," OANDA analyst Edward Moya said in a note.

Still, Citi analysts expect Opec+ to continue to add more barrels in January. "Citi calculates that Opec+ actual monthly additions have averaged 262,000 b/d rather than 400,000 b/d, given the inability of so many Opec+ countries to produce at the level of their benchmarks as they have lost the capacity for lack of investment," the bank said in a note. "The discrepancy means that withholding that amount would be largely meaningless in the global supply/demand balance for oil."

Also weighing on the market is the prospect of a resumption of oil exports from Iran, following upbeat comments from diplomats as talks resumed on Monday between world powers and Iran on reviving a nuclear pact.

-BNA

VIRTUAL EVENT

Conference to focus on off-grid renewable energy

ABU DHABI: Organised by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the fifth edition of the International Off-grid Renewable Energy Conference (IOREC) will take place virtually next week from December 7 to 9.

Now open for registrations, this year's IOREC will shed light on the urgency to accelerate electrification efforts underscoring the specific opportunity off-grid renewable energy solutions offer in achieving universal access to

energy, the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development and climate goals during this critical decade of action. While the number of people without access to electricity declined from 1.2 billion in 2010 to 759 million in 2019, under current plans and policies 660 million people will still live without access to energy in 2030.

According to IRENA's World Energy Transitions Outlook report, off-grid renewables still represent only one per cent of the overall fi-

nance for projects to expand energy access, despite growth in annual financing commitments from US\$6 million in 2008 to around US\$460 million in 2019.

Energy transition

Policies for and investments in off-grid renewable energy are seen as central to a just and inclusive energy transition that supports the achievement of both socioeconomic and global climate ambitions.

"Off-grid renewables are a fun-

damental component of the energy transition and a pillar of sustainable development," said Francesco La Camera, Director-General of IRENA. "Global efforts to tackle the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have served as an unsettling example of the consequences of an energy system defined by inequities and centralised models of generation. The next period of global development will be based on a fundamentally different energy system." -WAM

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MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Shares of Bank Nizwa were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat shares were the most active in terms of turnover

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,000.35 points, down 2.86 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 1.20 per cent at 538.44 points. Voltamp Energy, down 9.57 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of Bank Nizwa were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 879 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR4.21 million, with more than 16.92 million shares changing hands. Out of 51 traded securities, 0 advanced, 35 declined and 16 remained unchanged. At the session close, foreign investors were net sellers for OMR2.3 million while

domestic investors were net buyers for OMR1.8 million followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR559,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 6,371.88 points, down 2.66 per cent. Sohar International Bank, Bank Muscat, Bank Nizwa, Arabia Falcon Insurance and United Finance were down 6.25 per cent, 5.51 per cent, 5.00 per cent, 4.17 per cent and 3.64 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 6,025.69 points, down 1.31 per cent. Voltamp Energy, NAPI, Galfar Engineering, Oman Fisheries and Raysut Cement were down 9.57 per cent, 4.20 per cent, 3.95 per cent, 3.39 per cent and 3.25 per cent respectively. Services Index was down by 1.22 per cent before closing at 1,614.83 points. — **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,118.11	4,000.35	4,000.35	4,118.22	-117.87	-2.86
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,546.00	6,371.89	6,371.89	6,546.00	-174.11	-2.66
Industry Index	6,103.80	6,021.96	6,025.70	6,105.72	-80.03	-1.31
Services Index	1,633.75	1,614.83	1,614.83	1,634.74	-19.91	-1.22
MSX Shariah Index	544.99	538.44	538.44	544.99	-6.55	-1.20
MSX TR INDEX	4,952.09	4,810.48	4,810.48	4,952.23	-141.75	-2.86

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
16,924,065	4,211,147	879	21,950,254,131	0	35	16	51

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (R)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDSTR	1,000	940	1	0.940	0.940	0.940	1.040	1.040	0.000	0.000	0.940	0.940	1.000	0.100	93,288,000
OM0000003000	AI MAHA MARKETING	500	330	1	0.660	0.660	0.660	0.672	0.672	0.000	0.000	0.660	0.660	0.664	0.000	46,388,000
OM0000003200	VISION INSURANCE	2,295	254	2	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.096	0.091	0.100	5,303,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	104,000	24,752	6	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.239	-0.001	-0.418	0.238	0.234	0.240	0.100	78,747,005
OM0000001688	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	15,000	5,850	2	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.392	0.002	0.510	0.390	0.381	0.390	0.100	55,800,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	207,958	74,459	15	0.360	0.360	0.356	0.358	0.360	-0.002	-0.556	0.356	0.352	0.356	0.100	233,038,034
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR.	109,625	37,299	4	0.342	0.342	0.322	0.340	0.342	-0.002	-0.585	0.322	0.322	0.346	0.100	34,400,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	100,000	31,000	4	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.312	-0.002	-0.641	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.100	250,408,422
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	300,821	33,391	2	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.112	-0.001	-0.893	0.111	0.108	0.111	0.100	216,411,979
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	30,000	15,296	4	0.500	0.510	0.500	0.510	0.516	-0.006	-1.163	0.510	0.506	0.500	0.100	28,050,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	32,850	4,303	1	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.131	0.133	-0.002	-1.594	0.131	0.130	0.136	0.100	11,135,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	295,300	27,643	25	0.093	0.095	0.093	0.094	0.096	-0.002	-2.083	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.100	18,800,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER	30,000	13,140	1	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.438	0.448	-0.010	-2.232	0.438	0.422	0.438	0.100	103,547,580
OM0000002176	JAZZERA STEEL PROD	13,500	4,794	4	0.356	0.356	0.352	0.356	0.366	-0.010	-2.732	0.356	0.340	0.358	0.100	44,463,674
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST&FIN	1,733,592	238,650	81	0.141	0.141	0.137	0.138	0.142	-0.004	-2.817	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.100	32,706,000
OM0000002226	ALAZEERA SERVICES	10,000	3,300	2	0.326	0.334	0.326	0.330	0.340	-0.010	-2.941	0.334	0.326	0.334	0.100	20,197,410
OM0000001419	RAYSUT CEMENT	30,000	7,140	2	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.238	0.246	-0.008	-3.252	0.238	0.238	0.250	0.100	47,600,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	1,032,902	736,840	115	0.740	0.740	0.700	0.712	0.736	-0.024	-3.261	0.700	0.688	0.700	0.100	534,000,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	175,626	9,789	12	0.055	0.056	0.055	0.056	0.058	-0.002	-3.448	0.055	0.055	0.056	0.100	17,200,194
OM0000002786	BANK MUSCAT	3,974,884	1,716,429	220	0.500	0.500	0.474	0.480	0.508	-0.028	-5.612	0.474	0.476	0.476	0.100	1,715,477,900
OM0000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	1,290,358	135,942	40	0.110	0.110	0.104	0.105	0.112	-0.007	-6.250	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.100	313,956,540
Total		21	9,090,639	3,121,543	544											
Parallel Market																
OM0000000426	OMAN REFRESHMENT	22	39	1	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	0.000	0.000	1.750	0.000	1.750	0.100	87,500,000
OM0000003028	GULF INT. CHEMI	15,150	1,454	1	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.087	0.000	0.100	2,016,000
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MKR.	2,650	2,279	3	0.860	0.860	0.860	0.920	0.920	0.000	0.000	0.860	0.864	0.872	0.100	87,400,000
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	113	101	2	0.896	0.896	0.896	0.904	0.904	0.000	0.000	0.896	0.900	0.896	0.100	55,392,600
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	185	39	1	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.205	0.205	0.000	0.000	0.210	0.185	0.210	0.100	24,600,000
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	5,000	205	2	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.041	0.000	0.000	0.041	0.041	0.042	0.100	9,061,410
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	50,000	2,300	1	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.046	0.045	0.047	0.100	8,183,298
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	750	59	2	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.078	0.074	0.078	0.100	74,456,612
OM0000004925	ALBATRAH POWER	15,000	10	1	0.651	0.651	0.651	0.652	0.652	0.000	0.000	0.651	0.651	0.651	0.100	55,904,146
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	188,242	9,192	11	0.048	0.050	0.048	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.049	0.049	0.050	0.100	71,667,472
OM0000007910	AMMAN REAL ESTATE	2,030	190	2	0.091	0.096	0.091	0.099	0.099	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.091	0.096	0.100	19,800,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	68,715	118,977	17	0.190	0.192	0.190	0.192	0.194	-0.002	-1.031	0.192	0.192	0.192	0.100	312,181,700
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	46,000	4,305	6	0.094	0.095	0.093	0.094	0.095	-0.001	-1.053	0.093	0.087	0.095	0.100	14,621,738
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	15,500	791	3	0.051	0.051	0.051	0.052	0.052	-0.001	-1.923	0.051	0.049	0.054	0.100	36,434,723
OM0000004788	MAJDA TAKAFUL	12,400	10,378	12	0.096	0.096	0.094	0.094	0.096	-0.002	-2.083	0.094	0.094	0.100	0.100	11,450,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	86,800	7,986	11	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.094	-0.002	-2.128	0.092	0.091	0.092	0.100	11,960,000
OM0000003157	HSCB BANK OMAN	484,721	44,100	23	0.091	0.092	0.090	0.091	0.093	-0.002	-2.151	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100	182,028,464
OM0000002549	BANK DHOOFAR	839,203	106,110	6	0.131	0.131	0.128	0.130	0.133	-0.003	-2.256	0.128	0.127	0.131	0.100	388,525,667
OM0000003281	TAAQEER FINANCE	29,000	2,077	5	0.073	0.073	0.071	0.072	0.074	-0.002	-2.703	0.071	0.071	0.073	0.100	18,258,480
OM0000003681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	86,000	5,776	11	0.068	0.068	0.066	0.067	0.069	-0.002	-2.899	0.066	0.066	0.066	0.100	8,165,625
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV. H.	50,000	3,080	6	0.062	0.062	0.061	0.062	0.064	-0.002	-3.125	0.061	0.060	0.061	0.100	12,400,000
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	10,300	587	5	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.059	-0.002	-3.390	0.057	0.057	0.057	0.100	7,125,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	81,970	4,344	4	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.055	-0.002	-3.636	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.100	18,504,854
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	715,051	52,310	50	0.074	0.074	0.073	0.073	0.076	-0.003	-3.947	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.100	14,816,011
OM0000007290	ARABIA FALCON INS.	12,000	1,380	1	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.120	-0.005	-4.167	0.115	0.115	0.100	0.100	11,879,691
OM0000001310	ALUMINIUM PROD.	275,100	37,692	36	0.140	0.147	0.135	0.137	0.143	-0.006	-4.196	0.147	0.138	0.147	0.100	4,399,289
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	4,073,983	388,085	108	0.097	0.097	0.094	0.095	0.100	-0.005	-5.000	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.100	212,510,538
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	12,275	1,277	2	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.104	0.115	-0.011	-9.565	0.104	0.109	0.000	0.100	8,465,886
Total		28	7,913,160	808,924	333											

STOCKS

Asia share markets rebound

HONG KONG: Asian share markets were trading in positive territory on Tuesday as investors became cautiously optimistic the new Omicron variant might not cause a widespread global economic disruption to worsen the coronavirus pandemic.

The higher open followed a brighter lead from Wall Street on Monday, which reacted, to news from US President Joe Biden that

new lockdowns as a result of the variant were off the table for now.

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan was 0.52 per cent higher on Tuesday.

In Australia, the S&P/ASX200 was up 1.15 per cent while Japan's Nikkei was trading 1.2 per cent higher early in the session, according to Reuters. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index underperformed, down 0.25 per cent while China's blue-

chip CSI 300 index was up 0.13 per cent. Activity in China's services sector grew at a slightly slower pace in November, official data showed on Tuesday, as the sector took a hit from fresh lockdown measures as authorities raced to contain the latest outbreak.

The official non-manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index fell to 52.3 in November from 52.4 in October. — **BNA**

CHINA

Manufacturing improves as power shortages ease

BEIJING: China's manufacturing activity rebounded in November as orders improved and power shortages eased, a survey showed Tuesday.

An industry group and the national statistics agency said a monthly purchasing managers' index rose to 50.1 from October's 49.2 on a 100-point scale. The index spent the previous two months below 50, which shows activity decreasing. The Associated Press (AP) reported.

A measure of production rose 3.6 points to 52, indicating activity was recovering from power rationing imposed in major manufacturing areas in September to meet official energy efficiency targets.

"Industrial activity rebounded this month thanks to easing disruptions from power shortages," said Sheana Yue of Capital Economics in a report.

Yue noted the recovery faces uncertainty due to the spread of the coronavirus's omicron variant. She said manufacturers also face supply shortages but that was offset at least partly by falling prices for materials.

A measure of new export orders rose 1.9 points to 48.

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Monthly Rent: 375/- to 650/-
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Contact: 99657906 or 24781446

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next to Al MAHA Petrol Stn.

TEL. 99382489, 99263443

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Opposite Kims Hospital Al Falaj
Contact: 99657906 or 24702141

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REQUIRED

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Logistics Division.

2. Business Development Executive/Manager
Oil/Gas/Petrochemical Division.

- The candidates with minimum 7 years experience in Oman in the respective fields with valid Omani driving licence may apply.
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CONNECT

JOB VACANCIES

Urgently required by a real estate company, a qualified:

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Fluent in English with a minimum of 5 years experience in Oman with a valid Oman driving license.

CV to be emailed to: fahadhh@yahoo.com
Contact: 99703564

URGENTLY REQUIRE

A reputed Company in Oman require:

HSE Executive

Minimum 5 to 7 yrs experience in similar position.

.....

Candidates with Nebosh certificate, Oman Driving license and NOC please apply to:

muscatjobs111@gmail.com

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Testing Engineer
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Experienced Electricians
with DCRP License - 02 No's.

Candidates are requested to send the CV within 10 days from the date of advertisement thru email;
careermusqat@gmail.com

DRIVER

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Looking For **Carpenter and Office Staff**. Contact 24709144
Email: atf24704415@gmail.com

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

ENGINEER

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

SALES/MARKETING

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

MEDICAL

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

JOB WANTED

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

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

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

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

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

DRIVER

Looking for driving jobs, 3 year experience in Oman. Contact 94447012

Driver need job with own car. Contact 94722609

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

MANAGER

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

Accounts, finance manager 29 years experienced, worked with reputed groups, expert in cashflow & budgeting, auditing etc. Contact 98803439

Social Media Editor & Manager, Indian male with 3 yrs experience in every media platform with SEO proficiency for channel growth. also affiliated with the cryptoverse. Currently in Oman looking for a suitable job and visa. Contact 94786582 Email: abduhlrahil310@gmail.com

PURCHASE

Procurement Manager, Indian male with 14 years of Middle East experience in the field of Construction in all kinds of Buildings & Infrastructure works. Handled various roles like QC Manager, Construction Manager and Certified Lead Auditor for ISO 9001:2015 & OHSMS 45001:2018 seeks suitable placement. Can join immediately. Contact 9410 7414 / sreejups.sreejith@gmail.com

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

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

JOB WANTED

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

Senior Accountant

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

Contact on +96871551938

Executive Camp Boss/Logistics/Store/Procurement

Graduate with 10 years experience in Oman as camp administration-in-charge with Oman D/L & 15 yrs experience in Logistics/store/inventory control/procurement exp in oil and gas field is looking for suitable position. Fully vaccinated, valid Oman gama medical and ready to join immediately.

Whatsapp 0091 9656724161
Email - rajeshm117821@gmail.com

PROJECT ENGINEER

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

Contact 91731694

SALES / PURCHASE

Indian Male(31), MBA-Finance, 7 years experience as Sales Procurement Specialist, specialized in electrical & lighting for residential and commercial projects, Seeking suitable position. D/L available.

Email: qaisebukhari@gmail.com
Contact: 94560161

SALES / BDM / ADMIN

Indian Male, B.Sc. (Mathematics), PGD in Business Management. 16 Yrs. of Oman Experience, Worked with the leading Companies in Oman (MCT, SLL & Nizwa). Sales, Admin & Oilfield Services Companies & Key Accounts Handling. Good in MS Word, Excel, letter drafting. Fluency in Arabic, English, Hindi & Malayalam. Valid Oman D/L.

Contact: +968 9527 8838, anup2p4p@yahoo.com

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

Indian Female(MBA Finance) having more than 15 years of experience in Oman in Finance and Accounts seeks suitable senior positions. NOC Available.

Contact # 94953826 / 92824146

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Indian, 23, Civil Engineer, fresher with Oman D/L, looking for suitable job. Contact 95257524

B.Tech Mech Engineer, 3 Month Exp in India seeks suitable job. Contact +968-92805874 Email: parasatan@gmail.com

Civil Engineer, Indian, B.E Civil, having 11+ yrs Exp. Looking for a suitable position, valid GCC D/L. Currently in Oman. Contact 95085270 Email: fasee.syed@gmail.com

Diploma Civil Engineer, (Bangladesh) total 10 yrs experience in Oman seeking urgent placement.NOC available & D/L. Contact 94025828. Email: mofizulislam009@gmail.com

Civil Engineer (Contracts and Execution) with 20 years experience, PMP and RMP certification, Primavera, Autocad and MS office, NOC, D/L. Contact 93284245

Civil Engineer (B.E) Indian Male (26) 5 years of GCC construction experience in an A grade firm with D/L. NOC available, Immediate joining. Contact +968 94781810

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

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

CIVIL ENGINEER

An Indian, Graduate Civil Engineer having 22+ yrs Exp. in Construction Sector on Buildings, Infrastructure & Electro-Mechanical Projects with Project Management/Contracts Exp. looking for a Middle Management Position in the Consulting/Contracting Firm. Valid Engineer Visa & D / L, NOC available/Transferable Visa.

Contact No. 91996650

FINANCE

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

GSM: 92334161

SALES/MARKETING

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

Contact 95034204

FINANCE

Senior Accountant, Indian Male MBA (Finance) with 9 + years of experience of which 6 years of experience in KSA in Financial Accounting including VAT. Currently in Oman.

Contact: 78370670
Email: abid.khan.a@gmail.com

Mechanical Engineer

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

Contact 95434381
email: shuhaibusman313@gmail.com

ENGINEER (IT)

Indian, Female, B.Tech, with 2+ years of experience in Oman as Coordinator and Marketing with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.

GSM : +968 71198240
Email: jc.clarrinda@gmail.com

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Call / WhatsApp +971543499629

FINANCE MANAGER

Finance Professional CA/CIMA/ MBA, with 18 years of GCC experience, open to Immediate Managerial Vacancies

Contact Number # 78556829

ACCOUNTS ADMIN

Accountant with 10 yrs experience in Trading & Contracting, Oil & Gas, Building Materials, Manufacturing, Constructions & IT sectors. Expertise in Accounting, Finalization, Auditing, Budgeting, Costing, Payroll & VAT. NOC / Local release & Driving licence available.

Contact: 91183601
E-mail: suneel.suneel@gmail.com

FINANCE & ACCOUNTS MANAGER

MBA - Finance with 15years experience in 5 countries including GCC & Africa. Handled accounts, costing & banking of trading, Manufacturing, Oil & Gas. Construction & service company. Available for employment in Muscat with transferable visa.

Contact 93270023 rajugetme10@yahoo.com

CIVIL ENGINEER

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

92408363
sawad.mohammed@outlook.com

HR / Finance

Indian, Male, Masters degree in HR and Finance with 5+ years of experience in Oman as HR Asst with valid Omani D/L. Looking for a job, Currently in Oman.

GSM : +968 93835905
Email : chris_alwin@yahoo.com

EDUCATION

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

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

MEDICAL

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

MISCELLANEOUS

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

LOGISTIC

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

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

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

SALES/MARKETING

Indian male, 12 yrs Oman exp in sales & marketing, MBA, available immediately. Contact 98314180

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

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

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with D/L, looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Indian holding MBA with 7 years of experience in Sales and Marketing in Oman with valid D/L. Looking for suitable job opportunity. Contact +968 7902 4220

Indian male, BBA, 26 years, having 3 and half year experience in Sales and Marketing, D/L, looking for suitable placement. Contact 96550844 Email: arshaqrajan000@gmail.com

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

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

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6 SIMPLE SECRETS TO HEALTHIER, FULLER HAIR

Self-care is an important topic these days, especially when it comes to prioritizing your mental, physical, and emotional well-being. Not only can practicing self-care help reduce anxiety, depression, and stress, but it can also lead to healthier hair and skin when you focus on re-fueling your body from within.

“Getting the right nourishment from the inside out is an instrumental part of self-care and can greatly impact your health, including how you look and how you feel,” says Tracy Lockwood Beckerman, registered dietitian based in the US. “Things like energy levels, mood and even hair texture can be impacted by what you put in your body. That’s why it’s vital to include essential and balanced nutrients in your diet through foods, drinks and supplements as much as possible.”

Beckerman shares her top tips to include in your daily routine for growing a healthier, fuller head of hair - just remember that nutrition is always key!

Mind your protein intake
If your diet is either too restrictive or lacking in the protein department,

it’s possible that your hair isn’t growing optimally or perhaps shedding too much. A well-balanced diet with adequate protein intake will provide your body the energy it needs for better and healthier hair growth. If you are trying to reduce your animal protein intake, make sure you load your diet with plant-based protein sources like lentils, nuts, seeds and grains like oats or quinoa.

Find foods rich in iron and vitamin C
Iron deficiency is one of the most common reasons for hair breakage. However, foods like chickpeas and spinach are great whole-food sources of iron that can help with hair breakage by providing more oxygenated and healthy red blood cells to the body. Additionally, combining plant-based iron-rich foods with those high in vitamin C in the same meal can help you better absorb the nutrients. For example, add some slivered almonds to your roasted brussels sprouts or squeeze some lemon on your sautéed spinach for an added boost of absorption.

Benefits from biotin
Biotin (also known as vitamin B7)

stimulates keratin production in hair and can increase the rate of follicle development, helping to increase hair growth, according to the report “A Review of the Use of Biotin for Hair Loss.” It’s easy to get biotin in your diet because it’s in a wide variety of foods such as eggs, bananas, fish, nuts, and milk. To ensure you are getting enough biotin, opt to take a supplement. That way, you know you are getting the essential nutrients that your body needs to support thicker and fuller hair.*

Consider clinically proven supplements
Women’s hair is an important piece of their unique persona. Growing it is like putting the final touches on their individual masterpiece. The right hair growth supplements can make a big difference in optimizing the health of your hair.

“In addition to a healthy diet, I recommend hair growth supplements to my client as they contain an influx of key nutrients that help nourish hair follicles from within, encouraging them to grow stronger and healthier in as little as three months*,” says Beckerman.

Environmental factors
What we eat has an effect on our hair health, but lifestyle choices over the years-like how often we exercise, how we manage stress, and even being outside-all factor in, too. Environmental stressors include a broad range of factors that can impact hair wellness, like exposure to toxins, pollution and too much sun exposure, which may be hazardous to hair follicles. It’s not always possible to remove these factors but taking steps to protect the hair from environmental stressors is important, nonetheless. Washing hair after it is exposed to pollutants or wearing a hat outdoors can help, too!

Reduce stress with essential oils
After a long day’s work, add essential oils to your routine to compress the stress. Too much stress has been known to trigger hair loss and negatively impact hair growth. Combat that stress and create a calming experience by using essential oils with unique nutrients like rosemary oil, pumpkin seed oil and castor oil.

Show off your healthiest hair by incorporating these tips into your daily routine. -BPT



FEATURE



5TH NATIONAL SCULPTURE EXHIBITION 2021 IN DHAKA

Visitors view artworks at the 5th National Sculpture Exhibition 2021 in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh, November 29, 2021. Bangladesh on Monday opened the month-long sculpture exhibition in Dhaka, displaying 114 selected sculptures by 107 sculptors. xinhua



ROUND-UP

15 years of growth: Hutchison Ports Sohar elevates trade in the Sultanate

Hutchison Ports Sohar marks a decade and a half of operations in Oman

MUSCAT: This year marks a very special anniversary for Hutchison Ports Sohar as we mark a decade and a half of operations in Oman. Hutchison Ports Sohar has come a long way from its humble beginnings when in 2006 we only handled a few thousand boxes. Fast forward to today and this year we celebrated the remarkable milestone of our 6 millionth TEU. Here we take a brief look at the journey of the past 15 years, the achievements which were made possible through ongoing investment, and a glimpse of what lies ahead for Hutchison Ports Sohar.

We take great pride in supporting the ambitious programme Oman Vision 2040 which was established to elevate Oman's logistics industry and diversify the country's economy. It is exciting to see the vision of the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said take shape, and we are grateful to have the leadership and direction of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik as Sohar increasingly becomes a maritime hub for the Middle East.

Hutchison Ports Sohar was established in 2006 as a joint venture between CK Hutchison's Hutchison Ports, Asyad Group and other strategic investors, who have always been committed to ensuring that the terminal could reach its full potential. As Oman adopted development policies to spur trade and economic development, Hutchison Ports Sohar continues to invest in the latest equipment and IT solutions. The aim is to progressively increase the terminal's capacity ahead of the burgeoning demand while also expanding the range of value-added services at the port.

Foundation for tomorrow
Reflecting on the anniversary, Andy Tsoi, Managing Director of Hutchison Ports MEA Division commented, "As a large, greenfield development, there were many unknowns and many hurdles to overcome. We were very pleased to have the support of the Hutchison Ports group, solid commitments from our valuable carrier partners and most importantly our strong workforce. Looking ahead, we are striving to continue to engage our young workforce to ensure that we build a strong pipeline of future



talent for the port and the overall industry in Oman."

From the outset, the vision of Sohar Port and the broader economic zone leveraged the advantageous location of Sohar: strategically outside the Strait of Hormuz, on the key trade routes serving the region, and at the midpoint between commercial centres of Muscat and Dubai. This ideal location gives the port the ability to facilitate trade in and out of Oman, as well as transshipment in the region. In fact, located in one of the most dynamic regions, the port is within reach of two billion consumers.

Mega vessel ready
As a specialised container handling facility, Hutchison Ports Sohar is ready to serve the industry's increasingly large mega vessels. In addition to adopting international best practices and cultivating a strong culture of innovation and ongoing improvement, the terminal has been outfitted with the latest container handling equipment.

13 quay cranes, eight of which have remote control and an out-reach of 24 rows.

41 rubber-tyred gantry cranes, eight of which are hybrid with remote control.

The state-of-the-art equipment has enhanced the safety and working conditions of our team, contributed to our sustainability goals and boosted the terminal's capacity to 2.4 million TEU. And as a data-intensive industry, Hutchison Ports Sohar has also adopted a wide range of IT solutions to minimize vessel and truck turnaround times and to create true value for users of the port.



Looking ahead, we are also laying the figurative groundwork to launch autonomous truck technology in 2022. Another key technology we see great promise in is 5G telecommunications for an efficient and optimised port community system. Hutchison Ports Sohar has been working closely with Omantel and Huawei to study and formulate commercially viable 5G solutions at the terminal.

Maximising potential
As we look to the future, efforts to attract additional direct calls

continue in earnest. By increasing the connectivity of the port, the local business can effectively extend their reach into international markets, and by operating a common-user facility, traders in Oman enjoy a wealth of shipping options. Indeed, Hutchison Ports Sohar currently boasts a customer profile covering over 100 clients including all global shipping lines, regional feeders, NVOCCs and shipping agents. This patronage means a great deal to us.

Commenting on the occasion, Anacin Kum, Chief Executive Officer of Hutchison Ports Sohar said, "I am glad to be a part of Hutchison Ports Sohar's growth for the past few years. This place and its people have tremendous

potential which is being proven by new challenges each passing day. Now is the right moment for us all to renew the pledge to further strengthen our position in Oman and the Middle East. The coming years will require further innovation, dedication, efficient customer service, but above all, mutually beneficial business relationships with shipping lines and end-users alike. We have empowered our employees which allow customers and shareholders to place their faith and trust in us – and we are committed to continuing strengthening this bond."

The future is green
Hutchison Ports Sohar also understands that its ongoing success

needs to be sustainable and that the company needs to be fully engaged with the local community. With this in mind, we have actively identified a range of Environmental, Social & Corporate Governance initiatives. Earlier we carefully reviewed our energy use, replacing traditional lights with power-efficient LED and using intelligent environmentally friendly technologies wherever possible. In less than half a year, we managed to reduce energy consumption by 28 per cent and these efforts will continue.

While it is important to protect the environment for future generations, it is also important to give the future generations the knowledge and skillsets needed to succeed. In this regard, we are also committed to working with local Omani schools. Through a range of programs, we open the doors of the port to the youth to show them the far-reaching benefits of international trade from Oman and the potential career paths available in the broader industry. With a regular intake of interns, some of whom successfully turn into full-time employees; our Omanisation rate is at an all-time high of 84 per cent.

Finally, as we look into the future, we would like to thank all those who have supported the growth of Hutchison Ports Sohar over the past 15 years. The future of the port offers great potential, so we look forward to continuing our existing partnerships and establishing new ones in the years to come.

PROMOTION

Oman Oasis 5 gallon special discount draw announces final round of winners

MUSCAT: Oman Oasis, the nation's leading water brand, has been a popular choice amongst consumers because of its unfaltering commitment to producing high-quality bottled water, its ongoing customer-centric promotions, and rewarding raffle draw. Produced and distributed by Oasis Water Company, Oman Oasis recently concluded the final round of draws of its 5 Gallon Special Discount Promotion.

The first draw that took place on 20 September had 111 winners while the second draw held on 20 October saw another 105 winners. The final draw which was conducted on 21 November witnessed 94 more winners being added to its existing list of 216 winners. The Oman Oasis 5 Gallon Special Discount Draws gave away a total of 310 prizes through three successful draws. The prizes from the draws included ten 22 carats 8 grams gold coins, twenty 22 carats 4 grams gold coins, two hundred 10 Oman Oasis 5 Gallon water coupons, and eighty Lulu gift vouchers worth OMR10.

The 5 Gallon Special Discount Promotion, which began on 20 August and ended on 19 November, received an overwhelming response from the market. Ensuring that everyone who participated had more chances to win, the draws saw a total of 310 winners walking away with lucky prizes.



Oman Oasis has been steadfast in coming up with creative ways to engage with their consumers and reward them for their loyalty. By rolling out innumerable promotions, contests, and awareness campaigns that are shaped keeping the consumers' benefits in

mind, Oman Oasis has become the preferred choice and a household name. Complementing its marketing strategies and excellent levels of customer service are its international product quality certifications like the IBWA membership, NSF, ABWA, and WQA that serve as a

testament to the brand's commitment to quality. With over 25 years of experience in providing quality drinking water, a deep understanding of the local market, and its customer-first approach, Oman Oasis has successfully created an ever-growing consumer base.

AUTOMATED METER READING

Mazoon Electricity's AMR system meets needs of customers in efficient manner

MUSCAT: Utilising technology to enhance the speed of meter reading, Mazoon Electricity Company, the leading electricity provider in Oman, has been using Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system for the benefit of its customers.

AMR system is a central standard smart metering system that enables Mazoon Electricity to obtain monthly readings from customers and collect their consumption in an automated manner. Mazoon Electricity has been implementing the AMR system by connecting its smart meters to Nama Shared Services (NSS) through SIM cards and reading meters remotely.



AMR operates through smart meters and communicates through a modem. The configurable meter sends the meter reading through SIM cards.

AMR's system communicates with the meters through the SIM cards and gets information such as meter reads, active energy in the meter and issues faced if any. The system lets the AMR meter read the data at any time without having to visit the meter.

The statistics of the AMR system available in the various governorates is 33,280 of which Al Dakhiliyah has 10,245; South Al Batinah –11,845; North Al Sharqiyah – 5,620 and South Al Sharqiyah – 5,570.

AMR is an additional achievement in our constant endeavour to drive Mazoon Electricity to provide better services to customers. Collecting data at each meter is critical for us to better understand the patterns of electrical energy users.

Considering the current COVID-19 situation, the AMR system is especially useful because meters are read remotely.

The data can also be downloaded using the software.

If the meter is connected to the AMR system, the customer need not send meter readings as they will be received every month through the AMR system.

ROUND-UP

RAV4 available with exclusive benefits

Complementing the RAV4's daring looks is a thrilling drive personality imbued by two powertrain options

MUSCAT: Toyota fans in Oman have much to cheer about with the popular RAV4 now available with exclusive benefits. Customers interested in owning the RAV4 can look forward to exclusive service 2 years / 20,000km (Whichever is earlier). (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & Conditions apply.) The campaign is valid up to 30th December 2021. Visit the showroom for exact details.

Complementing the RAV4's daring looks is a thrilling drive personality imbued by two powertrain options. A 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine that produces 204 hp and 24.8 kg.m. of torque, mated to an eight-speed automatic transmission (8AT), resulting in quicker and smoother acceleration. On the other hand, a hybrid system combines two power sources consisting of a petrol engine and an electric motor producing a combined power of 219 hp. It is also paired to a Continuous Variable Transmission (CVT)



that provides the lowest fuel consumption value of 22.2km/L (Fuel economy may vary due to driving conditions.) while delivering a new level of driving pleasure.

One of the two major additions to the RAV4 is the hybrid electric model, which combines two power sources consisting of a petrol engine and an electric motor. The class-leading model, which offers the lowest fuel consumption value of 22.2km/L (As per GSO Certification. Fuel economy may vary due to driving conditions). The second addition to the RAV4 is the Adventure model, which was established as a symbolic model to appeal to active users through enhanced Waku Doki – the equiv-

alent of "heart-pumping excitement" in Japanese – and a more powerful image. It is distinguished by a more aggressive bumper, grille design and fog light surrounds, and exclusive 19-inch, split five-spoke wheels with matte-black accents.

The RAV4's distinct personality is completed by its expansive and comfortable cabin, which displays exceptional quality and finish throughout. The instrument panel's horizontal layout has a slimmer profile and a lower position than before to enhance forward visibility. The centre console is wider and more versatile with expanded console storage. The RAV4's cabin is accentuated with a range of advanced features,

including a wireless charging system for smartphones (Qi-enabled device), dual auto air conditioning system, a 7-inch multimedia infotainment display, six-speaker sound system, power driver seat and front ventilated seats.

As with any other Toyota model, safety remains a top priority for the RAV4 that comes with an advanced safety system, a comprehensive array of safety features to protect its occupants, such as 7 SRS airbags, Vehicle Stability Control, Anti-lock Braking System, Electronic Brake-force Distribution, Brake Assist, Electric Parking Brake with Hold function, Downhill Assist Control among many others.

OMAN ARAB BANK



OAB sponsors 'Influential Women' discussion event

MUSCAT: Oman Arab Bank (OAB) is sponsoring a discussion session that will be organised by the Omani Women's Association in Muscat tomorrow.

This support is in line with the bank's objective of enhancing its role in supporting society, stemming from the umbrella of its sustainability strategy.

Aimed at highlighting the efforts and empowering Omani women, the session will be conducted under the patronage of Her Highness Sayyida Basma Fakhri Al Said and will cover two main topics, namely, Omani women and entrepreneurship and the inspiring success stories of influential women.

Throughout the session, several women entrepreneurs will shed light on their success stories. This will include Zakira Jamal Khader, owner of Taj Al Yasmeen, Badria Hilal, owner of Mandazi and other projects, Rae-

da Mohammed Al Wahaibi, owner of Al Raeda Gold and Jewellery and Nadia bint Saeed Al-Rawahiah, owner of Silver Sunlights. Other notable mentions that will be present are Muzaffa Hamad Al-Amriya, owner of Al-Amriya incense and Maymouna Hamdan Al-Dahmani, owner of Lavender and Rose, a vendor of soaps, gifts and other distributions.

OAB has a rich and proud history as one of the first financial institutions to be established in the Sultanate. Today, the Bank operates a nationwide network of 53 branches and representative offices with 150 ATMs spread across Oman. Oman Arab Bank provides a complete range of financial products and services through its OAB online app.

Customers can now digitally open an account and benefit from several other services, directly from the convenience of their mobile phones.

RECOGNITION

Bank Muscat receives 'Best Private Bank in Oman' award

MUSCAT: In recognition of its unique Private Banking services supported by its strong customer-centric vision, Bank Muscat has once again won the prestigious 'Best Private Bank in Oman' award from Professional Wealth Management and The Banker in 2021. This year's award is a tribute to the exceptional depth and breadth of the bank's wealth-management solutions and investment options covering all types of asset classes across the globe.

Speaking on the occasion, Abdulnasir Al Raisi, Deputy General Manager – Premier Banking, Bank Muscat, said: "Bank Muscat Private would like to thank Professional Wealth Management and The Banker for consistently recognising the bank as the Best Private Bank in Oman. The bank has carved a name for itself over the last two decades with its high-end lifestyle benefits, private banking facilities and global investment options, which are unmatched in the Sultanate. This prestigious award reflects the consistency of performance, innovative strategies and the highest standards of professionalism achieved by the bank."

Bank Muscat offers Private banking clients a complete suite of investment options in global asset classes through its wealth management platform and tie-ups with international counterparties. Its robust execution platform is backed by a team of experienced and dedicated Relationship Managers (RMs) and a strong products team, which provide options to customers based on their individual preferences and market conditions. The range of solutions offered to its clients includes



stocks, bonds, ETFs and mutual funds across global markets. Bank Muscat Private Banking also offers selective exposure to Private Equity Funds, Real Estate Funds and Commodity ETFs; Offshore Banking and Portfolio Management through globally reputed counterparties. Private Banking clients also receive regular research reports and briefings covering investment ideas, global macroeconomic outlook and updates on key economic and geographic events impacting the performance of various asset classes.

An exclusive Private banking VISA Infinite credit card, a VISA Platinum debit card, luxury car finance and yacht finance are available for Private banking clients along with competitive rates for deposits, loans and foreign exchange. Private banking clients enjoy 1% cash back rewards on all transactions made through Private Visa Infinite credit card. The Infinite credit card also facilitates

unlimited access to 1,000+ airport lounges globally, complimentary chauffeur service to and from Muscat International Airport, special offers at over 900 luxury hotels around the world, multi-trip travel insurance and access to a Global Concierge Service.

Private Banking customers are also automatically entered in all the prize draws of Al Mazyna, which has total prize money of OMR11 million. Other services available include conventional accounts, term deposits, currency exchange, domestic and international transfers, online banking and regular asset monitoring. Bank Muscat remains committed to further expanding its innovative services for Private banking clients and providing an exclusive and unmatched banking experience. It must be noted that Bank Muscat's Private Banking has won 3 prestigious awards in 2021 in recognition of its elite Private banking services and products.

NEW ERA FOR SALES



Maserati OTO Retail project kicks off

MODENA: Maserati is inaugurating a new era for sales by integrating virtual and traditional experiences in the purchase process, resulting in the OTO Retail project ('OTO' stands for "online to offline", and vice versa).

OTO Retail is a new commercial proposal in close collaboration with dealerships, which offers an innovative customer experience. The project adds digital tools to support sales, maintains the centrality of dealerships' role and enables customers to personalise their purchase experience by deciding which aspects should be worked on in a Maserati showroom and which others can be completed digitally.

Bernard Loire, Chief Commercial Officer at Maserati, noted: "The focus at Maserati is always on the customer, continuing the brand's history of innovation and tradition, quality and exclusivity. We have therefore revamped our sales processes to arrive at an evolution of the customer journey."

"The brand wants to meet and exceed the expectations of customers, who will now be able to take advantage of an Omni-Chan-

nel experience," Loire continued. "We believe that this type of offer – utilising the Maserati Fuoriserie programme to customise our cars – is the right response to the wishes of the new luxury consumer."

The Omni-Channel approach and online customer journeys have changed purchasing behaviour, especially in the luxury segment where digital services have become key elements.

However, e-Commerce is only one part of the Maserati response.

The boundaries between online shopping and physical points of sale are blurring to a greater and greater extent: Maserati is ready with a new retail model, where the new customer journey is seamlessly integrated, regardless of the customer's location.

The digital approach is not only at home in front of a computer screen but is also coming into physical stores more and more. On the one hand, virtual assistants are offering increasingly complete online services; on the other, physical sales space is being extended and enhanced with services, to reach customers anywhere.

Maserati stores around the

world will be gradually adopting this new design, starting next year with newly developed showrooms in Milan and Shanghai.

The personalisation of the customer journey is also becoming even more exclusive, with the option to sign up for the Maserati Fuoriserie programme, an integral part of the brand's new retail concept. Launched in 2020, the customisation programme is designed to meet luxury consumers' requirements and makes each Maserati the perfect expression of their taste.

OTO Retail has recently been launched as a pilot project in the North American market.

Using this service, the Trident brand's customers can take advantage of a series of digital touchpoints. These include "My Maserati Showroom" to make an online booking for your car, "My Maserati Expert" to request details or information, "Remote Test Drive" and "Multi-channel Service Booking".

Customers can now configure and book their Maserati online, then complete the transaction at their chosen dealership.



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