

Times OF OMAN

Sunday, January 11, 2026



11th January
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN
HAITHAM BIN TARIQ'S
ACCESSION DAY

Momentous
day for Oman

ooredoo
UPGRADE YOUR WORLD

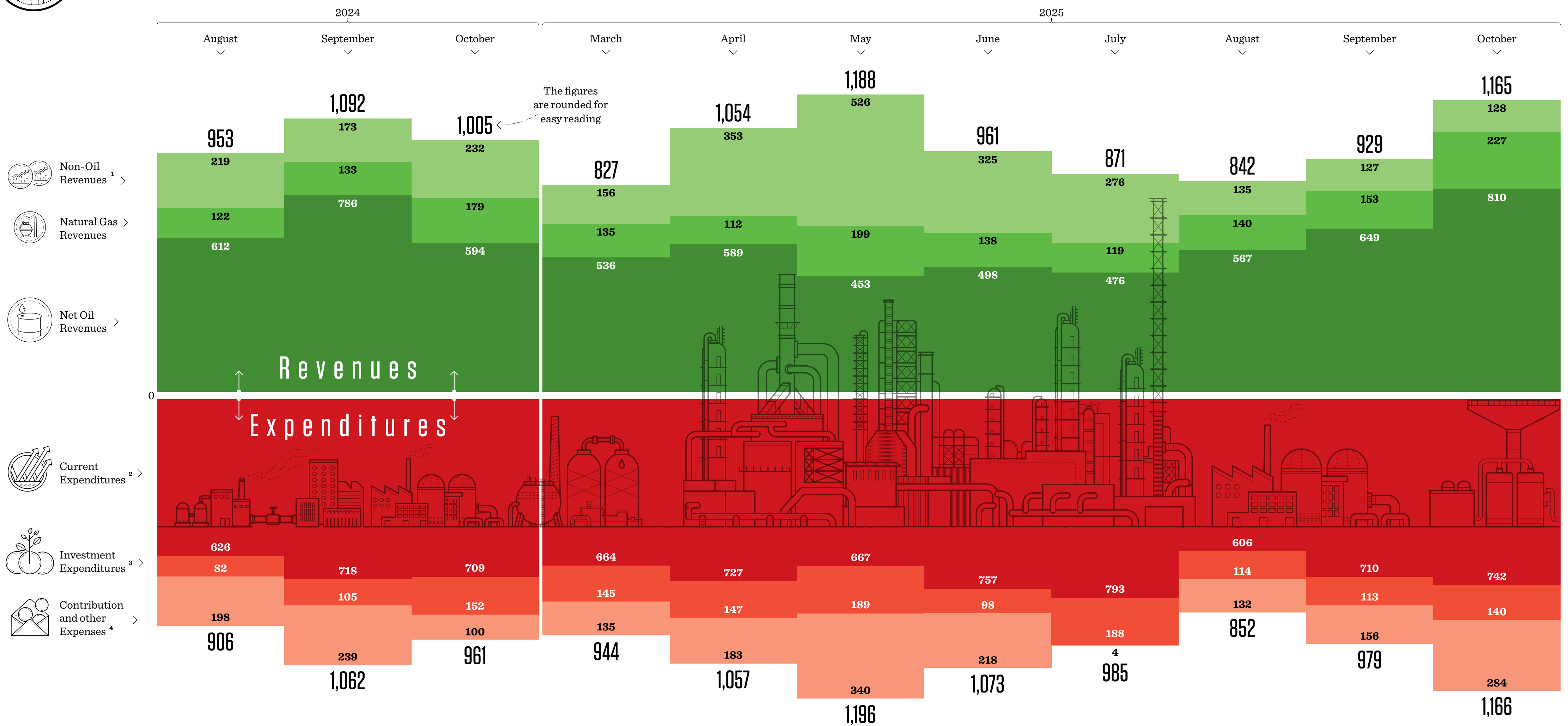
OMAN'S REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND GDP

In recent months, careful and strategic economic management under His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has strengthened fiscal sustainability and supported growth in line with Oman Vision 2040. This graphic illustrates the positive impact on Oman's revenues, expenditures, and GDP



OMAN'S PUBLIC FINANCE IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS

(In million Omani rials)

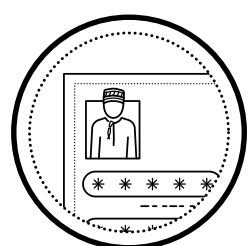


¹ "Non-Oil Revenues" include: Other Current Revenues (Taxes and fees Revenues; Non-Tax Revenues); Capital Revenues, and Capital Repayment

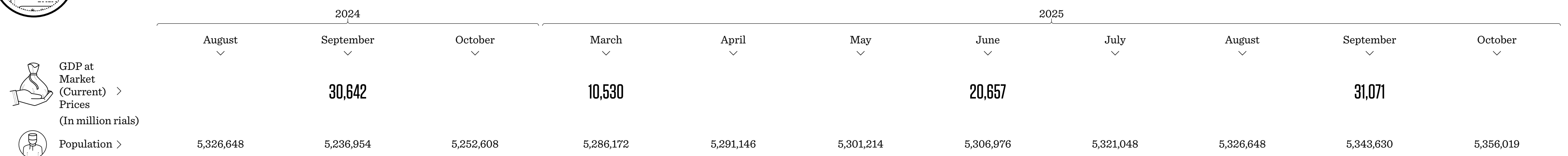
² "Current Expenditures" include: Defence and Security; Civil Ministries, Government Units & Public Authorities; Oil Production; Gas Production; Gas Purchase; and Interest on Loans

³ "Investment Expenditure" includes: Gas Production Expenditure; Development Expenditure for Civil Ministries; Oil Production Expenditure; and Development Expenditures for Government Companies

⁴ "Investment Expenditures" include: Gas Production Expenditures; Development Expenditures for Civil Ministries; Oil Production Expenditures; and Development Expenditures for Government Companies; also includes deficit or surplus



NATIONAL ACCOUNTS IN THE LAST MONTHS



ooredoo'

ONWARDS IN CONFIDENCE, VISION, AND RENEWED HOPE

**Accession
Day**





ALL NEW
EADO PLUS
PREMIUM

BEYOND YOUR EXPECTATION



1.5L Engine, 103 hp | 7 Speed DCT

Manufacturer's Warranty - 6 YEARS / 250,000 KMS[#]

*Terms and Conditions Apply



Vehicle images shown are for illustrative purpose only



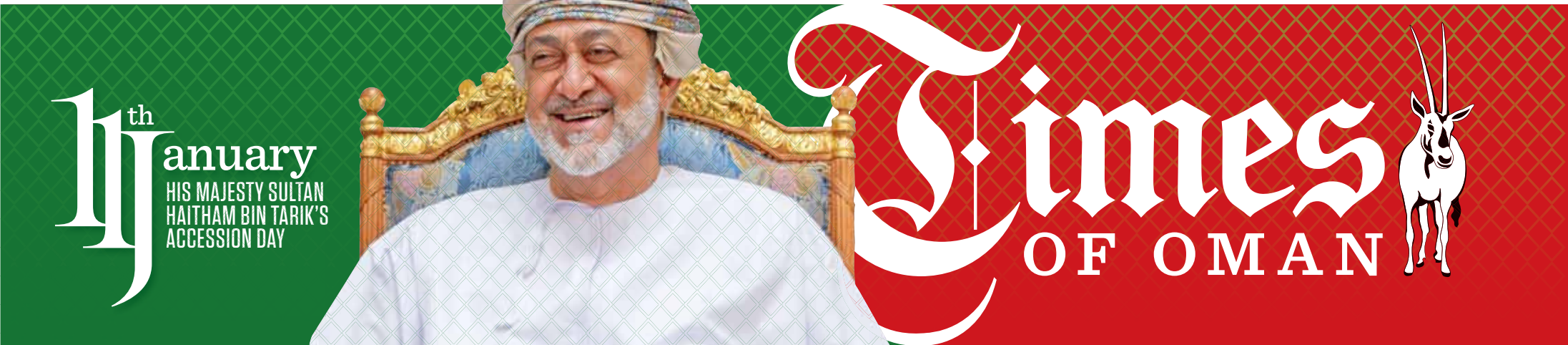
AVAILABLE ONLY IN BEIGE COLOUR
WITH FABRIC SEATS

Specification may vary as per the model variant. To know more, please visit the CHANGAN AUTO Showroom.

Arabian Gulf Automobiles
and Equipment LLC

Showrooms:
Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940
Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930,
Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920

800 50800
9662 8909
@changanoman
www.changanoman.com



OMAN MARKS HM THE SULTAN’S ACCESSION DAY



The eleventh of January represents a moment of pride and honour for every Omani and resident on this benevolent land

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman will celebrate on Sunday, the anniversary of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq’s Accession Day, which falls on the eleventh of January. The blessed Omani march continues its renewed renaissance with a clear and ambitious vision, built upon a national system that confidently and competently enhances future prospects.

The eleventh of January represents a moment of pride and honour for every Omani and resident on this benevolent land, and an occasion to renew loyalty and gratitude to the leader of the march, and to continue giving in the spirit of “Oman of the Renewed Renaissance” to build a prosperous future that will be enjoyed by coming generations, where ambitions and hopes are realised under the wise leadership of His Majesty the Sultan.

The Sultanate of Oman continues its march in an advanced phase of responsible national work, based on entrenching the principles of good governance, enhancing integrity and transparency, solidifying the role of institutions, and establishing the pillars of sustainable development, proceeding with determination and steadfastness towards achieving the goals of “Oman Vision 2040,” in a way that enhances its status and preserves its accomplishments.

Zahra Mohammed Ridha Al Lawati, Deputy Chairperson of the

Honourable Lady to inaugurate Khasab Hospital on Sunday



KHASAB: Her Highness the Honourable Lady Assayida Ahd Abdullah Hamed Al Busaidi, Spouse of the Sultan of Oman will grace the official inauguration of Khasab Hospital in the Governorate of Musandam on Sunday. The event coincides with His Majesty the Sultan’s Accession Day. – ONA

State Financial and Administrative Audit Authority for Oversight on Bodies, Investments, and Companies told Oman News Agency (ONA) that the wise vision of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq has contributed to enhancing transparency and integrity in state institutions, through the consolidation of the rule of law and the assertion of the principle of accountability without exception. **>A14**

 **hydrom**
Hydrogen Oman

We wish to extend our sincere congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and the people of Oman on the occasion of Accession Day, reaffirming our commitment to continue contributing to Oman’s vision for a diversified and sustainable energy future.



**A deep-rooted legacy
and a renaissance renewed
year after year**



On the occasion of the anniversary of the Accession of

His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik

May God protect and preserve him
to the reins of leadership in the Sultanate

We extend our highest congratulations and best wishes, accompanied by our sincere prayers, asking Almighty God to grant His Majesty continued health and well-being, and to return this glorious national occasion for many years to come, as the Sultanate of Oman continues its confident journey toward a more prosperous and sustainable future,

As Sohar International marks this cherished national occasion, it renews its steadfast commitment to its role as an active partner in the nation's development journey.

May God preserve Oman and its leader,
and may the nation continue to enjoy further progress and prosperity.

الأيّام رُسُوحٌ وَتَقَدُّمٌ



We extend our heartfelt congratulations and sincere best wishes to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik - may God protect him -
on the anniversary of his accession to the leadership of this beloved nation.

We pray to the Almighty to bless His Majesty with continued health,
strength, and prosperity, and to guide Oman and its people towards greater
progress and development under his visionary leadership.



**WARMEST
CONGRATULATIONS**
to
**His Majesty
Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik**
on Sultan's Accession Day

May Oman continue to
flourish under your
wise leadership!



OMAN
DATAPARK

omandatapark.com





Mohsin Haider Darwish LLC is honoured to extend its highest congratulations and best wishes to

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

on the anniversary of his accession to the throne. We reaffirm our commitment to continue serving with sincerity and loyalty under His Majesty's wise leadership, moving forward with confidence and an ambitious vision in support of Oman's continued growth and progress.



محسن حيدر درويش ش.م.م.
MOHSIN HAIDER DARWISH L.L.C.



We extend our heartfelt
congratulations to

**HIS MAJESTY SULTAN
HAITHAM BIN TARIK**

and the people of the Sultanate of
Oman on the auspicious occasion of
His Majesty's Accession Day



ADVANCING THE VISION, STRENGTHENING THE NATION



Warmest Congratulations

to

HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK

on Sultan's Accession Day

May Oman continue to flourish
under your wise leadership!

11 Jan

An Era Driving Progress Shaping the Future



[f](#) [in](#) [X](#) [@](#) [v](#) Omanchamber

غرفة تجارة وصناعة عُمان
OMAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE & INDUSTRY





His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

May God protect and bless you

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Your Majesty on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of your accession to the throne, and we also convey our best wishes to the people of Oman.

Under your wise leadership, we continue on a path where the foundations of stability are strengthened, the journey of development progresses, and the nation advances toward greater prosperity and success, guided by your gracious care for your loyal people and a peace that embraces all of Oman, its land and its people.

ominvest
أومينفست



We are honoured to extend our heartfelt greetings
and warmest congratulations to

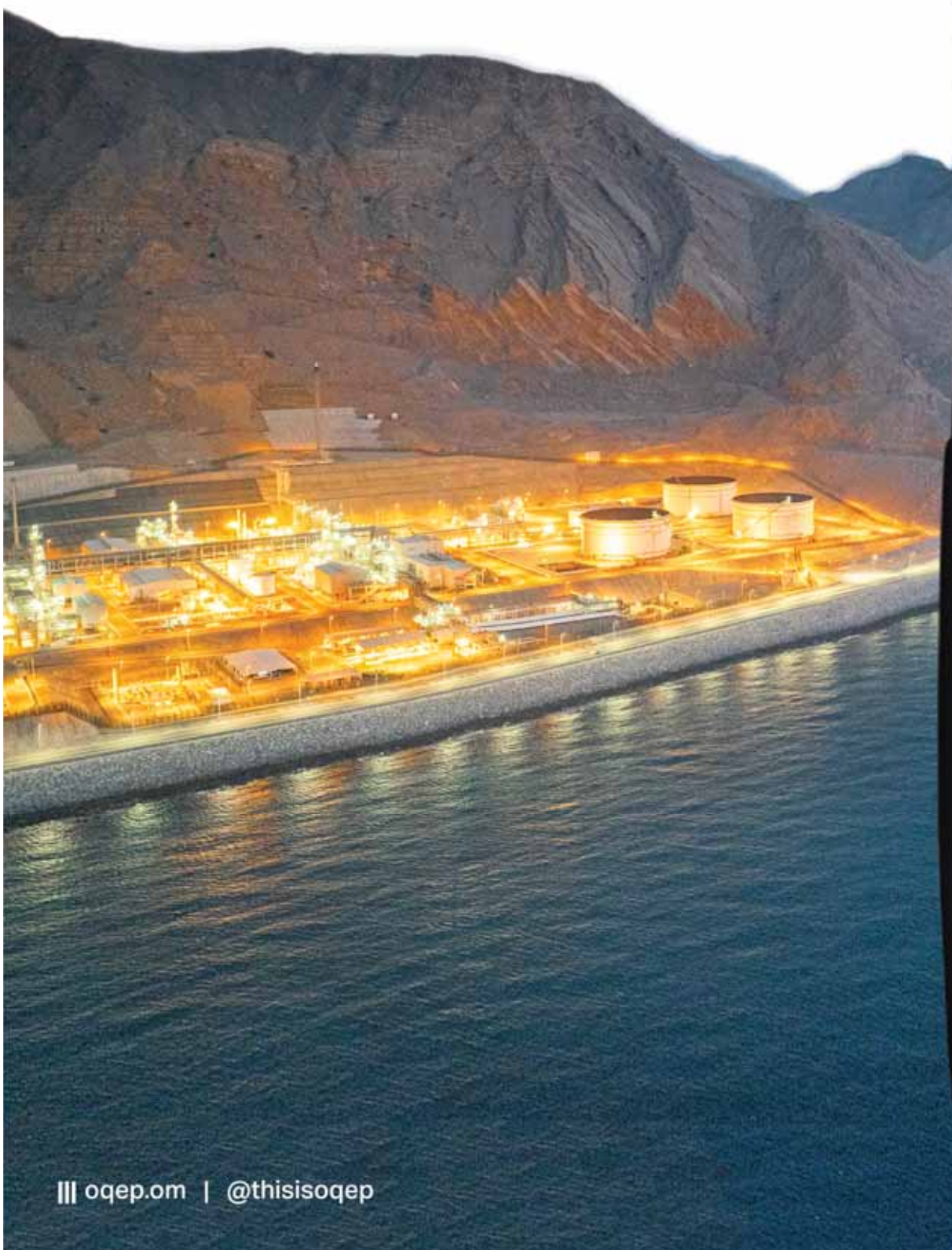
His Majesty Sultan

Haitham bin Tarik

May Allah Protect and Preserve Him

On the anniversary of His Majesty's accession
to the Throne, we renew our commitment to
contributing to our nation's development and
building a brighter and more sustainable
future for Oman under his wise leadership.

May Allah the Almighty grant His Majesty the
Sultan a long life and endow Oman ongoing
progress and prosperity.



Transfer your salary and get more

FOR MORE

www.bankdhofar.com 2479 1111

Royal directives: A roadmap for preserving social values

The clear and well-governed policies for digital behaviour will strengthen society's ability to confront negative phenomena

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The supreme directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the Council of Ministers to study and diagnose behavioural changes in society constitute a comprehensive national roadmap aimed at safeguarding values and preserving social cohesion and national identity, particularly in light of the rapid expansion of modern technologies and social media platforms.

Specialists and stakeholders told Oman News Agency that the royal directives respond to an urgent societal need created by contemporary technological transformations, stressing that developing clear and well-governed policies for digital behaviour will strengthen society's ability to confront negative phenomena such as the weakening of family ties and the decline of positive role models in the digital sphere.

Social researcher Mubarak bin Khamis Al-Hamdani stated that Omani society is undergoing a significant phase of social trans-



formation driven by openness to global cultures, the shift toward virtual communication, and evolving economic and governmental policies that encourage broader



participation in development.

He emphasised that economic growth and financial sustainability cannot be achieved without a cohesive and stable society sup-



ported by parallel social policies.

Al-Hamdani pointed out that recent years have witnessed emerging social phenomena, including the erosion of family dialogue,

the decline of authentic local role models, and the spread of behaviors such as bullying, harassment, and unhealthy comparisons driven by digital platforms.

He stressed the importance of establishing an integrated social monitoring system capable of anticipating societal challenges, alongside activating the role of media, educational, religious, and civil society institutions in promoting values-based content and positive role models.

For her part, Dr. Ruqaya bint Hamid Al-Wahibiya, Head of the English Department at the Vocational College in Saham, affirmed that behavioral change has become a tangible reality reflected in language,

daily interactions, and the formation of role models among younger generations. She noted that social media has reshaped the concept of the role model from one rooted in consistent behavior and responsibility to an image consumed through digital platforms.

Dr. Al-Wahibiya stressed that addressing this transformation requires awareness rather than mere control, calling for policies that promote value-based digital content, media literacy, and partnerships with influential figures who embody authentic societal values. She highlighted that Omani society possesses rich and enduring role models rooted in its heritage and demonstrated through national solidarity and balanced discourse during times of crisis.

Meanwhile, Nasser bin Khalfan Al-Badi, a religious preacher at the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs, underscored that virtuous values and ethical behavior represent a fundamental pillar of national stability and a key driver of development. He noted that His Majesty's directives align with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, particularly the priorities of citizenship, identity, heritage, and national culture.

Al-Badi emphasised the role of religious institutions in renewing their discourse through modern tools and digital platforms, highlighting the need for integrated efforts among religious, educational, cultural, youth, and media institutions. He called for the development of a comprehensive strategy, supported by measurable indicators, to preserve values and strengthen social cohesion in line with national aspirations.

NCSI

Oman's GDP is OMR10.4bn at current prices

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The gross domestic product (GDP) of the Sultanate of Oman at current prices in the third quarter of 2025 "at market price" reached OMR10.414 billion, recording a slight decrease of 0.4 percent compared to the same period of 2024, which amounted to OMR10.454 billion.

Preliminary data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information indicated that this decline is mainly due to the decrease in the performance of oil activities, as they declined by 6 percent to record OMR3.471 billion in the third quarter of 2025 compared to 3.693 billion in the same quarter of 2024.

In contrast, non-oil activities in the third quarter of 2025 achieved a growth of 2.5 percent, record-



ing OMR7.291 billion, compared to OMR7.116 billion in the same quarter of 2024.

At the level of non-oil economic activities, construction activi-

ties witnessed an increase of 2.2 percent to record OMR817.400, while wholesale and retail trade activities increased by 2.1 percent to contribute OMR880.100, while

public administration and defence activities recorded growth of 2.8 percent to reach OMR966.800 in the third quarter of 2025. -With ONA inputs

CBO

OMR35bn credit balance granted by banking sector

MUSCAT: The total credit balance granted by the banking sector in the Sultanate of Oman at the end of November 2025 recorded an increase of 8.8 percent to reach approximately OMR35 billion, while credit granted to the private sector witnessed growth of 6.9 percent to reach OMR28.7 billion.

Data issued by the Central Bank of Oman indicated that this credit was distributed across various sectors; the non-financial corporate sector received the largest share at 47.2 percent, followed by the individuals sector at 44.3 percent, while the remaining percentage was distributed between the financial corporate sector at 5.7 percent and other

sectors at 2.8 percent.

Total deposits in the banking sector at the end of November 2025 recorded a growth of 7.2 percent to reach OMR33.8 billion.

Within this total, private sector deposits with the banking system witnessed an increase of 9.9 percent to reach OMR22.8 billion by the end of November 2025.

Regarding the distribution of the total private sector deposit base, the data showed that the personal sector accounted for the largest share, amounting to about 49.6 percent, followed by the non-financial corporate sector and the financial corporate sector with shares of 31 percent and 17.3 percent respectively. -ONA

TOMI 2025 Awards Ooredoo for Best Digital Out-of-Home Campaign

MUSCAT: Ooredoo was recognised at TOMI 2025 for Best Digital Out-of-Home (DOOH) Campaign with its vibrant Hala+ summer promotion, turning everyday moments into dynamic, high-energy brand experiences.

Blending youthful energy with a strong sense of tradition, health, and togetherness, the campaign captured summer activity in a way that resonated deeply with audiences. By offering prepaid users up to 100 GB of bonus social data for just OMR 2, Ooredoo positioned Hala+ as the ulti-



mate enabler of nonstop TikTok scrolls, Instagram deep dives, and YouTube binges—fueling connection, content and community all summer long.

The trophy was presented by His Highness Sayyid Suhaib Bin Barghash Bin Said Al Said. TOMI 2025, organised by Muscat Media Group, took place on 10th December at Crowne Plaza Qurum, Muscat, bringing together over 200 marketing professionals from Oman and the MENA region in a celebration of creativity, strategy, and impact.



The Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer, and all employees of Raysut Cement Company proudly extend their heartfelt congratulations to

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

On the occasion of the anniversary of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne, we pray for his continued health happiness, and well-being.

May Oman achieve greater progress, prosperity and development under his wise and visionary leadership.





شركة ريسوت للأسمنت
Raysut Cement Company



شركة الجوهري للأسمنت
Jawhri Cement



Pioneer Cement



MALDIVES CEMENT



OQBİ

Inspired leadership, bright future.

Congratulations to **His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik** on the occasion of the anniversary of **His Majesty's accession**.

Inspired by His Majesty's vision, we are dedicated to driving growth, fostering prosperity and shaping a brighter future for Oman.

NEW DEVELOPMENT MODEL

Oman emerges as an impartial mediator and a reliable partner in advocating peace, stability



< FROM A1 She added that “Oman Vision 2040” supported empowering oversight bodies and enhancing their independence to protect public funds and ensure the integrity of institutional performance.

Clarity in government work

It contributed to spreading a culture of disclosure and clarity in government work, which enhances society's confidence in state institutions, in addition to entrenching the principles of good governance, modernising the administrative work system to enhance efficiency and prevent shortcomings, and encouraging the raising of performance efficiency and linking functional responsibility with trustworthiness and commitment.

This, she affirmed, constitutes a sustainable reformist approach that enhances integrity and preserves the nation's gains.

She affirmed that the Authority works to enhance integrity by executing its assigned tasks, starting with implementing the annual audit plan, and receiving and studying reports and complaints from the public through its various channels.

It also works to enhance transparency by implementing the integrity enhancement plan and entrenching governance principles in partnership with other government units, and involving society in reviewing the results of its oversight work through the community summary, which enhances transparency and institutional trust, she further added.

She noted that the Sultanate of Oman achieved remarkable progress in the Corruption Perceptions Index, one of the most prominent international indicators in the field of enhancing integrity, advancing by 20 positions in the 2024 index issued annually by Transparency



International in Berlin. It ranked 50th globally among 180 countries, and 4th among Arab countries, compared to 70th in 2023, with a score of 55 compared to 43 in the same year, representing an increase of 12 points.

This progress, she said, reflects the keenness with which the Sultanate of Oman adopts best international practices in the fields of protecting public funds, raising the efficiency of their use, and enhancing integrity.

On his turn, Sayyid Adil Al-Murdas Al Busaidi, Member of the State Council, said: “Since His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq assumed power in the country, he has taken upon himself to develop and modernise what was achieved throughout the past era, which saw the completion of all modern state institutions and infrastructure.”

He added that the first step taken in mapping out the roadmap was represented by the “Oman Vision 2040” to achieve comprehensive sustainable development, and the participation of the Council of Oman through its two chambers, the State Council and the Shura Council, by reviewing draft laws and formulating their articles in line with the public interest. The Council also initiates preparing specialized studies in various fields,

in addition to devising plans and work programmes for the vision and ensuring their implementation according to governance system standards characterized by transparency and integrity.

He pointed out that “Oman Vision 2040” contributed to developing the work of the state's administrative apparatus. The government began to reduce bureaucracy in the organizational structure of institutions by merging some of them at times and transferring some competencies to the private sector at other times, which eliminated overlap and similarity in the work of institutions, simplified procedures, and shortened them, he added.

He noted that introducing modern technologies to provide services and facilitate access to them has become imperative, with the prime aim of keeping pace with development and enhance government work. This, he said, was embodied in the launch of several electronic portals and modern applications that provided significant services to citizens.

Meanwhile, Mubarak Khamis Al Hamdani, Director of the National Foresight Office at the Ministry of Economy, told Oman News Agency (ONA) that the development philosophy of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq is based on four



main pillars. The first is the necessity of building a solid and sustainable foundation for economic and social plans; the second is harnessing legislative and institutional frameworks to enable sustainable growth at both economic and social levels; the third is managing development with a philosophy of indicators and prudent follow-up; and the fourth is creating a balanced equation to achieve the objectives of economic policies, meeting the needs of growth and a good life for society.

He added that this philosophy was reflected in the Royal directives and approaches that charted the state's course of action over the past five years, where the focus was clear on how the economy can be capable of generating sustainable and diversified income, alongside focusing on paths to raise spending efficiency and directing it towards strategic structures and necessities that directly impact the sustainability of development.

He pointed out that expanding the productive base through investing in promising sectors, diversifying international and economic partnerships, and vigorously pushing the foreign investment file, whether through the government or through the direct attention of His Majesty the Sultan, were among

the most prominent features of the past phase.

He explained that this philosophy went hand in hand with establishing an integrated and flexible social protection system, based on accurate and fair targeting, protecting the most needy groups, and ensuring the ability of various social groups to harmonise with the objectives and developmental policies.

He noted that one of the features that distinguished Oman's new development model on the economic level is enhancing participation in financing public services, while maintaining the central role of the state in supporting and financing those services, consistent with enhancing resources and directing them to serve economic development.

Among these features also is the shift of government investments from asset dispersion to their governance, consolidation, and maximizing returns through the establishment of Oman Investment Authority, reflecting a developmental vision that treats public assets as a strategic lever to restructure the economy, enhance economic diversification, and empower them as a gateway for national and external partnerships.

On the international front, the domestic achievements were not isolated from Oman's active presence, as Omani foreign policy represents the other face of the national work system.

Under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, the foreign policy of the Sultanate of Oman is based on a firmly established system of steadfast principles that form the core of the Omani diplomatic approach.

Foremost among these are respect for state sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, good neighborliness, consolidating the values of peace and coexistence,

and prioritising the language of dialogue and understanding in addressing differences and conflicts.

The Sultanate of Oman is keen for its foreign policy to be a factor of stability and construction in its regional and international surroundings, relying on the rules of international law and the United Nations Charter, and believing in the importance of joint work and multilateral cooperation, which enhances international security and peace, serves the supreme interests of peoples, and simultaneously aligns with the targets of “Oman Vision 2040” in supporting sustainable development and enhancing the status of the Sultanate of Oman as a reliable and responsible partner in the international community.

Omani diplomacy plays an active and pivotal role in building a wide network of balanced relationships, based on trust and mutual respect with various countries of the world, through pursuing a policy of openness and positive communication, and enhancing bilateral and multilateral partnerships. This achieves common interests and supports paths of cooperation in various political, economic, developmental, and cultural fields.

Omani diplomacy, throughout its extended history, has also contributed to bridging viewpoints, preparing environments for dialogue, and facilitating paths of understanding between different parties in a number of regional and international issues, stemming from its approach based on positive neutrality, credibility, and building bridges not barriers.

This has enhanced the international community's confidence in the Omani role as an impartial mediator and a reliable partner in advocating peace and stability efforts, and consolidating sustainable peaceful solutions. -ONA

غرفة تجارة وصناعة عُمان

OMAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Oman chamber of commerce and industry would like to announce the following public tenders:

Tender No.	Tender Name	Tender Fees (irrevocable)	Specialized companies	Deadline for Obtaining Documents	Deadline for Tender submission
1/2026	Consultancy Services for Developing and Standardizing Architectural Identity and Interior Design for OCCI Branch Buildings	50/-R.O for all companies. 25/-R.O for companied holding Riyada	Engineering & Architectural consultants	25 January 2026	1 February 2026, before 12 AM

Companies may obtain the tender documents from the Administration Department at the Second Floor of the chamber's Headquarters in Ruwi, during the official working hours against the payment of tender fees.

Tender Terms:

● Provide valued CR, OCCI membership and taxation certificate.

● Interested companies should enclose their bids a 1% Bank guarantee/ certified cheque of proposal value issued by one of the banks operating in Oman valid for 120 days from the deadline of submitting the bids addressed in the name of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The bids without this temporary guarantee will not be considered.

● Omanization percentage in the company is considered one of the technical evaluation criteria and preference is given to companies that have higher Omanization percentages.

● The bids should be submitted in red waxed envelopes addressed to - Head of main tendering Committee, OCCI, written outside the Number and title of the Tender. No indication about the bidder is allowed on the envelope.

● Offers should be deposited in the tender box kept at the Administration Department in the Second floor of OCCI Head office.

● OCCI is not bound to accept the lowest or any other bids. It has the right to accept or reject any bids without showing reasons.

● Interested companies should submit the Tenders on 1 February 2026 before 12 pm.

For any inquiries please contact as on: 24763881

Email : Shahla.zadjali@omanchamber.om

omanchamber

MUSCAT NIGHTS

Oman Automobile Association offers cultural extravaganza

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The cultural programme of Muscat Nights was launched on Friday at the Oman Automobile Association and will continue until the end of January, offering a rich variety of theatrical performances, cultural activities, and art exhibitions.

The association's grand theatre is hosting a series of theatrical productions by local theatre groups from across the Sultanate, including plays for children, comedic and social dramas, and silent performances that highlight societal issues through innovative artistic techniques. These performances aim to revitalise the theatrical movement and provide audiences with the opportunity to engage directly with local talent.

The programme also features cultural and interactive exhibitions across the association's halls. Key highlights include the Omani Personalities Pavilion, which presents an interactive visual display of the achievements of national figures using artificial intelligence and virtual reality technologies, and the Omani Encyclopedia Pavilion, which offers knowledge-based content for youth using creative methods such as infographics and short films.

Visitors can also enjoy visual arts exhibitions, featuring works in fine arts, Arabic calligraphy, live drawing, and interactive installation art. Special spaces for children provide educational art activities designed to nurture creativity and artistic skills.

In addition, the programme includes cultural corners and library spaces, alongside platforms aimed at supporting knowledge dissemination and highlighting the role of cultural institutions in serving the community.

The Muscat Nights cultural events at the Oman Automobile Association underscore the importance of arts and culture in strengthening national identity, while offering an integrated experience that blends knowledge, creativity, and entertainment for audiences of all ages.

**Honouring a Legacy of Vision.
Building the Future with Commitment.**

Congratulations and warm wishes to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
on the 6th anniversary of his
accession to the throne



Bahwan Engineering Group

- ◆ Oil, Gas & Power Projects
- ◆ MEP Services
- ◆ Electrical & Instrumentation
- ◆ Civil Construction
- ◆ District Cooling
- ◆ Renewable Energy
- ◆ Water & Waste Water Projects
- ◆ Electrical Products
- ◆ Mechanical Products
- ◆ Diesel Power Generation
- ◆ Elevators, Escalators & Travolators
- ◆ Chemical & Industrial Products
- ◆ Facilities Management & Industrial Maintenance
- ◆ Generator & Auxiliary Maintenance
- ◆ Elevators / Escalators / Travolators Maintenance
- ◆ Chemical Manufacturing

www.bahwanengineering.com

C. R. No. 1046381

**Guided by Wisdom, Rooted in Strength,
Illuminating Six Years of Progress.**

Felicitations & warm wishes to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
on the 6th anniversary of his
accession to the throne

الجنبي العالمية للسيارات ش.م.م
Al Jenaibi International Automobiles L.L.C.



**BMW
MOTORRAD**

C.R. No. 1707221

Sohar International Recognised at TOMI 2025 for Best Overall Advertising Campaign

MUSCAT: Sohar International was awarded Best Overall Advertising Campaign at TOMI 2025 for the powerful launch of its KSA branch—an initiative that went beyond a traditional opening to become a landmark brand moment.

From strategic vision to seamless execution, the campaign delivered a distinctive, thoughtfully crafted experience that reflected Sohar International's ambition, confidence and regional relevance. By authentically showcasing Oman's rich identity within the



Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the launch resonated strongly with guests, earning an exceptional response and setting a new benchmark for cross-market brand storytelling. The trophy was presented by His Highness Sayyid Suhaib Bin Barghash Bin Said Al Said. TOMI 2025, organised by Muscat Media Group, took place on 10th December at Crowne Plaza Qurum, Muscat, bringing together over 200 marketing professionals from Oman and the MENA region in a celebration of creativity, strategy, and impact.



MUSANDAM

Khasab Hospital represents a qualitative leap in healthcare services: Governor

KHASAB: The inauguration of Khasab Referral Hospital in the Governorate of Musandam marks a new stage in the path of healthcare development, translating national approaches aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the healthcare system and modernizing its infrastructure. This reinforces the principle of equity in healthcare delivery and aligns with aspirations for comprehensive development and improving the quality of life for citizens and residents.

Sayyid Ibrahim Said Al Busaidi, Governor of Musandam, stated in a remark to Oman News Agency that the inauguration of Khasab Referral Hospital represents a milestone in the development path of the healthcare system in the Governorate of Musandam and a strategic achievement that translates the governorate's approach towards modernizing infrastructure and enhancing the preparedness of the health sector. Its importance stems from its role in refining healthcare services within the governorate, thereby solidifying the efficiency of health coverage, strengthening the healthcare system's ability to respond to various challenges and medical needs, and ensuring the delivery of high-quality services to both citizens and residents alike, he noted.

He added that this project embodies the wise vision of His Maj-



esty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, which affirms that the human being is the essence, goal, and means of development. Extending the highest levels of healthcare across all governorates of the Sultanate of Oman, including Musandam, reflects the wise leadership's keenness to entrench developmental justice and elevate the quality of life for every citizen and resident on this benevolent land, he affirmed.

The Governor of Musandam indicated that this project is expected to yield sustainable improvements in the quality of healthcare through the integration of advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies with specialized medical cadres.

He mentioned that providing modern equipment will inevitably lead to enhancing the accuracy of clinical results, reducing waiting lists, and improving the patient journey within a technological system characterized by speed, transparency, and high efficiency, whereas previously citizens had to travel to other wilayats and governorates. This contributes to alleviating burdens on patients and their families, bringing healthcare services closer with higher quality and efficiency.

He affirmed that the hospital will play a fundamental role in supporting social development and enhancing the quality of life in Musandam Governorate by establishing a healthcare safety

system, which is a pillar of community stability. This role is consistent with the targets of "Oman Vision 2040," which places the health sector among the priorities of the Human and Society pillar, through creating an integrated health system committed to the highest global standards to ensure sustainable health for society, the Governor said.

He clarified that the project contributes to improving the quality of life index by providing an integrated healthcare environment that supports the physical and psychological well-being of individuals. Furthermore, the hospital contributes to enhancing employment policies by absorbing young national competencies, achieving economic and social empowerment for families in the governorate.

The Governor of Musandam pointed out that the health sector constitutes a main tributary for economic development in Musandam Governorate. Advanced infrastructure is a fundamental requirement for enhancing the investment attractiveness of the governorate, whether in the tourism or logistics sectors. He indicated that the presence of a hospital of this level reduces the economic costs wasted on external treatment and opens promising prospects, transforming the governorate into an integrated development attraction center. -ONA

INVESTMENT-FRIENDLY ECONOMY

Robust vision leads Oman towards a prosperous future



MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman welcomes the anniversary of the eleventh of January, marking the day His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik assumed power in the country, while achieving financial and economic accomplishments that reflect the resolve and sublime vision to establish Oman as an attractive investment environment supported by clear and favorable legislation, through plans, programs, and efforts from all parties to realise these achievements.

Furthermore, the launch of the Eleventh Five-Year Development Plan (2026-2030) at the beginning of this year, representing a bridge for transitioning from the recovery phase to the stage of economic growth and expansion, supported by a clear vision and integrated legislative and regulatory foundations, confirms that the Sultanate of Oman is on a promising path towards a prosperous and sustainable economic future under the leadership of His Majesty the Sultan.

Non-oil sectors in the Sultanate of Oman continue to enhance their role in supporting economic growth and achieving financial sustainability, registering a gradual increase in their contribution to the Gross Domestic Product, reflecting the effectiveness of economic diversification policies and progress towards the targets of "Oman Vision 2040." The contribution of non-oil sectors to the Gross Domestic Product at constant prices rose to 73.3% by the end of the third quarter of 2025, compared to 72.5% in 2024.

The Sultanate of Oman also maintained the 58th position globally in the 2025 Economic Freedom Index, thanks to reforms that enhanced the business environment and elevated regulatory efficiency.

The Gross Domestic Product of the Sultanate of Oman at constant prices recorded a growth of 2.2% by the end of the third quarter of 2025, reaching approximately OMR28.693 billion compared to the end of the corresponding quarter of 2024. This is primarily attributed to a 3.4% increase in the value-added of non-oil activities, recording around OMR21.45 billion. Meanwhile, the value-added of oil activities recorded a slight growth of 0.3%, amounting to OMR8.946 billion.

Furthermore, the Gross Domestic Product at current prices increased by 1.5% by the end of the third quarter of 2025, recording OMR31.071 billion compared to the end of the corresponding quarter of 2024. This is mainly due to a 3.5% increase in the value-added of non-oil activities, recording around OMR21.409 billion, versus a 2.2% decrease in the value-added of oil activities, recording approximately OMR10.645 billion.

The trade balance of the Sultanate of Oman recorded a surplus of OMR4.690 billion by the end of October 2025. The total value of merchandise exports reached OMR19.359 billion, while the total recorded mer-

chandise imports amounted to OMR14.669 billion.

Meanwhile, the volume of foreign direct investment in the Sultanate of Oman by the end of the second quarter of 2025 recorded a growth rate of 12.8%, reaching approximately OMR30.279 billion.

The inflation rate in the Sultanate of Oman stabilized at a moderate and significantly low level compared to the actual economic growth rate achieved during the Tenth Five-Year Development Plan (2021-2025).

The average inflation rate reached about 0.9% until November 2025, which is a significant achievement demonstrating the Omani economy's ability to continue growing and overcoming challenges while implementing the targets of "Oman Vision 2040" and the economic diversification strategy to elevate growth rates and support the performance of various economic sectors.

Muscat Stock Exchange witnessed distinguished performance during 2025, reflecting the strength of the national economy and the success of government programs aimed at enhancing market efficiency and investment attractiveness.

The market value increased by about 60% from its 2020 indicators to exceed RO 32.2 billion, while the trading value during 2025 increased by 1013% compared to 2020, surpassing OMR5 billion, driven by initiatives that contributed to enhancing liquidity and confidence among local and international investors.

These included launching the Capital Market Development Program, inaugurating the Alternative Investment Market, and improving the legislative environment to accommodate more companies and provide diverse opportunities for investors.

In 2025, the government implemented its financial and economic policies aimed at entrenching sustainability and enhancing the robustness of the state's fiscal position. This positively reflected on the credit rating of the Sultanate of Oman, as the three major credit rating agencies elevated Oman's rating to investment grade, contributing to boosting investor confidence and Oman's attractiveness as an investment destination.

Standard & Poor's classified Oman's credit rating at investment grade (BBB-) with a "stable" outlook, according to two reports it issued in April and September 2025. Meanwhile, Moody's elevated Oman's credit rating in July 2025 from (Ba1) to investment grade (Baa3) with a "stable" outlook. Similarly, Fitch elevated Oman's credit rating in December 2025 from "BB+" to investment grade (BBB-) with a "stable" outlook.

In the field of AI, several government entities and private institutions implemented a package of pilot projects related to AI applications in a number of vital sectors. -ONA

11th Five-Year Plan to boost economic, financial stability



The plan builds on achievements from the first phase of "Oman 2040", which strengthened financial sustainability, GDP growth, and diversification across key sectors

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has launched the Eleventh Five-Year Development Plan (2026-2030), continuing its efforts to enhance economic, financial, and social stability, and advance towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

The plan builds on achievements from the first phase of "Oman 2040", which strengthened financial sustainability, GDP growth, and diversification across key sectors.

The plan emphasises direct benefits to citizens, including the social protection system, increased social spending, enhanced support for food commodities and basic services, expanded healthcare and education infrastructure, and strategic projects in economic diversification, roads, and housing.

The eleventh plan follows three implementation tracks:

1. Time track – divides the plan into three work programmes.



2. Integrated track – combines outputs of technical teams with strategic programmes to allow policy flexibility and sustainable growth.
3. Planning track – links economic and social development, focusing on economic and developmental components aligned with Oman 2040 and Sustainable Development Goals.

The economic track promotes sustainable diversification, innovation, and financial stability, reducing reliance on oil and enhancing exports.

The development track focuses on completing infrastructure, improving household income, enhancing social services, decentralising governance, stimulating investment in governorates, promoting smart cities, improving transportation networks, digital transformation, transparency, and environmental sustainability.

Dr. Salem bin Abdullah Al-Sheikh, Ministry of Economy spokesperson, highlighted that the plan prioritises financial sustainability, economic diversification,

job creation, social welfare, and service quality, while remaining flexible to future challenges and opportunities.

The plan targets three social goals:

- Enhancing decentralisation and balanced development in governorates.
- Raising labour market efficiency by supporting job seekers, encouraging entrepreneurship, linking education to market needs, and empowering national talent.
- Promoting sustainable social development by improving social services, empowering vulnerable groups, promoting national identity, advancing education and vocational training, and supporting youth, women, scientific research, innovation, and the sports and tourism sectors.

The eleventh plan includes 190 strategic programmes, covering education, health, social services, employment, business environment, work incentives, social protection, SME support, and national identity enhancement.

For 2026, social and basic sector spending rises from OMR5 billion in 2025 to OMR5.2 billion, representing 43% of total public spending. Key allocations include: Education: 40%, social security and welfare: 26%, health: 25, and housing: 9%

Support allocations include food commodities, social protection (OMR614 million), electricity (OMR509 million OMR), and employment programmes OMR(100 million annually), aiming to provide over 300,000 jobs for citizens during the plan.

Dr. Al-Sheikh noted that the first phase of Oman 2040 strengthened human development, enhanced spending on social aspects, and positioned Oman among countries with high human development, while effectively managing the pandemic's social, health, and economic impacts.

Dr. Abdul Aziz bin Rashid Al Hashimi, Vice Chairman of the Shura Council's Economic and Financial Committee, said the eleventh plan safeguards citizens from global economic fluctuations, maintains quality education and healthcare, supports basic commodities and utilities to keep inflation below 1%, and continues expanding the social protection and housing assistance programmes.

The plan also targets the employment of approximately 300,000 job seekers, creating nearly 60,000 jobs annually, fostering stability for citizens and contributing to a knowledge-based economy leveraging Oman's human capital.

COMMENTARY

Beyond Rights: The duties every worker must uphold under Oman’s labour law

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

Oman’s Labour Law, promulgated by Royal Decree 53/2023, establishes a comprehensive framework governing the employment relationship, setting out both the rights and obligations of workers in order to promote safe and productive workplaces.

Speaking to the Times of Oman, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Zadjali, Founding Partner of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm, explained that “the Labour Law provides for the protection of workers’ rights while also clearly defining the legal duties that workers are required to observe, which are essential for maintaining workplace discipline and safety.”

He stated that “among the most important obligations imposed on workers is compliance with occupational safety and health instructions. The law requires employees to use protective equipment, follow safety procedures, attend training sessions, and operate machinery correctly. Any act that compromises safety, such as ignoring instructions or misusing equipment, may expose the worker to disciplinary measures.”

Dr. Mohammed added that “workers are also required to comply with lawful and reasonable instructions issued by their employer or supervisors, provided that such instructions do not endanger the worker or violate the law or professional ethics.”

“The law obliges workers to exercise due care in preserving tools, machinery, and materials belonging to the employer, as well as maintaining the confidentiality of work-related information. Intentional dam-

age or unauthorised disclosure may lead to financial liability or legal action,” he said.

He further noted that “attendance and integrity are fundamental duties under the Labour Law. Prolonged unjustified absence, submitting forged documents to obtain employment, or accepting bribes or unauthorised benefits constitute serious violations that may justify termination

ing bribes or unauthorised benefits constitute serious violations that may justify termination.”

He concluded by stating that “the Labour Law adopts a balanced approach by defining responsibilities alongside rights. By holding workers accountable while preventing employer abuse, the law reinforces workplace fairness, safety, and productivity, ensuring that legal protection remains a shared responsibility rather than a one-sided entitlement.”

(Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm (info@mohammedibrahim.net), (+968 244 87 600) was established on 14th December 2006 and is serving clients through its offices in Muscat and Sohar, as well as operating on a request basis in other areas. It offers legal representation across a wide range of practice areas that include Labour Law, Corporate, Commercial, Contracts, Banking and Finance, International Trade, Foreign Investment, Insurance, Maritime Law, Construction and Engineering Contracts, International Arbitration, Intellectual Property and more).

OMAN'S MOST TRUSTED BRAND

لولو للصرافة
LuLu Exchange

LuLu Money
MONEY TRANSFER APP

We are honoured to convey our sincere congratulations to **His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq**, may God protect and preserve him, on the occasion of the **Anniversary of his Accession** to the reins of governance of the Sultanate of Oman

Download LuLu Money app now

App Store Google play

www.luluexchange.com

Facebook Instagram Twitter

Congratulations & Warm wishes to

HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK

and the people of Oman on the occasion of the Accession Day

BANK MELLI IRAN

P.O. Box: 2643, PC 112, Ruwi

Email: bmimct.@omantel.net.om | Phone: 24815145/66

WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS to

His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq on Sultan's Accession Day

May Oman continue to flourish under your wise leadership!

فن النسيج
ART OF LOOM

Shop No.121, Sabco, Phone: +968 95950001



CHANGAN

ALL NEW

EADO PLUS

PREMIUM

1.5L Engine, 103 hp | 7 Speed DCT

Manufacturer's Warranty - 6 YEARS / 250,000 KMS*



طراز 2026 MY

EMI OMR 69* for 6 years



800 50800

9662 8909

Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC

*Terms and Conditions Apply

Images shown are for illustrative purpose only. Specification may vary as per the model variant. To know more, please visit the CHANGAN AUTO Showroom.

Showrooms : **Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940, Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930, Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920**

India stars face NZ upstarts

Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are back for the hosts but they'll be facing a depleted opposition in the three-match ODI series, starting in Vadodara on Sunday

VADODARA: It isn't often that India cricketers get a 22-day break from international cricket. Rarer still for the most commercially lucrative team and players to be missing in action at the height of holiday season. Everybody will want to make up for the lost time when India return to action with the three-ODI series against New Zealand, starting in Vadodara in the state of Gujarat, from Sunday. The match begins at 12pm, Oman time.

This might be the least relevant of the three formats at the moment, but it is also the only one that the two biggest Indian stars of the last decade now play. The format India the country is most in sync with.

New Zealand, though, haven't got the memo. Eight of their squad of 15 haven't played in India before. Two haven't played any international cricket. One hasn't played an ODI. Five have played fewer than 10. Part of it is forced: Mitchell Santner, Matt Henry and Mark Chapman are managing their return from injuries, Will O'Rourke and Nathan Smith won't even make it back in time, Tom Latham is on paternity break, but increasingly big stars are refusing retain-

ers with New Zealand Cricket. Kane Williamson is not available for this tour because it clashes with SA20.

Bilateral ODI cricket couldn't mean any more different to two Full Member nations. And yet it is New Zealand who are on a nine-match winning streak, one short of their longest ever.

In the spotlight

Shubman Gill: After a great debut series as Test captain in England, Shubman Gill had a wretched second half of 2025. A neck injury proved crucial to India's Test series defeat to South Africa at home, then he missed the ODIs and eventually lost his T20I spot for the upcoming World Cup. As he sought to begin his comeback to action with some domestic cricket, he fell ill again. A return to runs will do India's Test and ODI captain a world of good.

Michael Bracewell: Gill's opposite number, Michael Bracewell, is also the opposite as a player: not a prodigy earmarked for greatness, but a utility player nudging 35 years of age. His most famous performance in international cricket remains in an ODI in India when



he nearly pulled a win out of the jaws of defeat with a 140 in Hyderabad almost two years to the day. It is as a finger-spinner against a full-strength Indian batting that he will be tested the most.

Team news

For India, Shreyas Iyer is back. He plays only one format in international cricket, and there he griev-

ously injured himself while taking a catch in Australia. Back after almost three months, he was nearly bitten by a dog as he went to pet it at an airport. All is well, though, and he can now resume as the vice-captain of the side. Jasprit Bumrah continues to miss the ODIs, but Mohammed Siraj is back and is likely to push Prasidh Krishna out of the XI. New Zealand's XI will look re-



markably different to the one that completed the whitewash of West Indies at home.

Perhaps the first call to make will be whether Devon Conway keeps wicket for the first time in ODIs. If not, Mitchell Hay will play his first ODI since April.

Teams: India (probable): Shubman Gill (capt.), Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul

(wk), Washington Sundar, Ravindra Jadeja, Harshit Rana, Kuldeep Yadav, Arshdeep Singh, Mohammed Siraj.

New Zealand (probable): Devon Conway (wk), Nick Kelly, Will Young, Daryl Mitchell, Henry Nicholls, Glenn Phillips, Michael Bracewell (capt.), Zak Foulkes, Kyle Jamieson, Michael Rae, Adithya Ashok. - Agencies

GROUP B

Adair returns to Stirling-led Ireland squad for World Cup

DUBLIN: Paul Stirling will lead Ireland's 15-member squad for the Men's T20 World Cup 2026. All members of the squad that toured Bangladesh in November last year have been selected barring Jordan Neill.

Neill, uncapped in T20Is, had replaced fellow opener Ross Adair, who had been withdrawn from that squad due to a knee injury. Adair is fit again and will slot back in.

Ireland are placed in Group B and will begin their campaign against Sri Lanka on February 8, and will then take on Australia (February 11), Oman (February 14) and Zimbabwe (February 17).

The first three games will be played in Colombo and the last one will be in Pallekele.

Ireland squad: Paul Stirling (capt), Mark Adair, Ross Adair, Ben



Calitz, Curtis Campher, Gareth Delany, George Dockrell, Matthew Humphreys, Josh Little, Barry McCarthy, Harry Tector, Tim Tector, Lorcan Tucker (wk), Ben White, Craig Young. - Agencies

BANGLADESH T20 WRANGLE

'We act as if nothing affects us': Shanto

DHAKA: Najmul Hossain Shanto has said that the Bangladesh players are often forced to put up an "act" to deal with controversies ahead of and at major tournaments.

"We haven't got a good result in any World Cup. We had a good opportunity last time [at the T20 World Cup in 2024], but we couldn't do it. But you will notice that before every World Cup, there's some incident that takes place," Shanto, Bangladesh's Test captain, said on Friday in response to a question about the ongoing controversy surrounding Bangladesh's participation at the T20 World Cup in February-March in India and Sri Lanka.

"As a player who has played one or two of these tournaments, I can tell you that it affects us. But we 'act' as if nothing affects us since we are professional cricketers. Even though you know that it af-



fects us. It is not easy. It is better if these things didn't happen. I think the players still try to keep all things aside to perform well.

"I would also add that this thing is beyond our control. Wherever we play the World Cup ultimate-

ly, I would think that the players have to act like nothing's bothering them, and they can do well for the team."

Just under a month out from the first ball of the T20 World Cup, a final decision on Bangladesh's

participation has not been made.

Controversy erupted after the BCCI asked Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) to remove their INR 9.2 crore signing Mustafizur Rahman from IPL 2026. The BCCI didn't explicitly mention security concerns but religious and political leaders had threatened KKR owner Shah Rukh Khan over acquiring Mustafizur's services at a time of political differences between Bangladesh and India.

The Bangladesh government acted swiftly, shutting down the IPL's broadcast in Bangladesh, while the BCB has informed the ICC that the team will not tour India, and would rather play their matches in Sri Lanka, owing to security concerns. Shanto isn't part of the current T20 set-up, but he led the team in Bangladesh's previous T20 World Cup. He was also part of the ODI World Cup campaign in India in 2023. - Agencies

ASHES DEBACLE

McCullum 'open to evolution' but wants to 'steer the ship'

SYDNEY: Brendon McCullum said there could be "someone better" to be England head coach if he is not "able to steer the ship".

McCullum and director of cricket Rob Key are set to be given the opportunity to remain in charge despite England's dismal 4-1 Ashes series defeat in Australia.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chief executive Richard Gould is carrying out a "thorough review" into the Ashes tour and will "implement the necessary changes over the coming months".

McCullum has held talks with Gould and ECB chairman Richard Thompson. The New Zealander is due to lead England in their white-ball series in Sri Lanka in less than two weeks, and the T20 World Cup that follows.

The 44-year-old said he is

"keen" to remain in his job, but it would "depend on what changes" are imposed upon him.

"I've a firm conviction in a lot of my methods," said McCullum. "I'm not against evolution and not against progress. I encourage that across all sports, not just cricket. And all aspects of life as well. So I'm not against that."

"However, you need to stand for something. You need to believe in your methods and you need to believe in how you go about things."

Key, McCullum and captain Ben Stokes breathed life into England's Test team when they took over four years ago in the aftermath of a 4-0 defeat in Australia.

But the methods that brought 10 wins from their first 11 matches in charge have come under intense scrutiny in Australia following an-



other damaging defeat for the tourists in Sydney. It was England's 14th defeat in 28 Tests since the start of 2024, winning just 13.

The tourists have been far be-

hind Australia with bat, ball and in the field. Their preparation has been questioned, including the lack of a full-time bowling coach or a member of staff with a speci-

ality in fielding. Heavy defeats in Australia often result in sweeping changes to the leadership of the England team, a move the ECB hierarchy are keen to avoid this time around.

However, the future of McCullum in particular appears to hinge on his willingness to accept the need for change and his ability to enact it. "Whatever you do in life, you have to have some authenticity," said McCullum.

"For me in the job as coach, you need to have an influence over how the environment runs and to be in charge of a lot of those decisions that are made when the pressure is on."

"So as long as that remains, I'm open to progress. I'm open to evolution and some nipping and tucking, but without being ultimately

able to steer the ship maybe there is someone better," Stokes has said he expects McCullum to be in charge for England's first Test of the home summer, against New Zealand in June. The all-rounder offered his backing to McCullum and said he would give the same view to ECB management if asked.

And McCullum said he and Stokes remain aligned in their "vision" for the England team.

"We always have robust conversations," said McCullum. "That's why you invest in those relationships on the basis of mates, but also as colleagues."

"It doesn't always mean he's going to agree with my stuff or I'll agree with some of his, but we commit and support one another and that's how I think leadership works." - Agencies



Congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik
and the People of Oman on the
6th Anniversary of the Accession Day

**Pioneering a prosperous future,
Guided by visionary leadership**

Oman is making remarkable progress as a nation of peace and prosperity. Under the inspiring guidance of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, Oman is taking impressive strides while making lasting differences. As a responsible corporate business enterprise, Saud Bahwan Group is wholly committed to His Majesty's vision, actively contributing towards fulfilling national objectives. On this special occasion, Saud Bahwan Group proudly salutes His Majesty's dedication and commitment and congratulates the people of Oman.



SAUD BAHWAN Group

11th January
HIS MAJESTY SULTAN
HAITHAM BIN TARIK'S
ACCESSION DAY

MARKE
BUSINESS & FINANCE

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026



GLOBAL ECONOMY RESILIENT
The global economy has shown resilience amid turbulence during the past year, including shifting trade policies – yet growth remains subdued and far below pre-pandemic levels, the UN said in a landmark report published. -WAM



Find Out More



Choose your perfect match
With Najahi New Subscription-Based
Current Accounts from Bank Muscat

BasicAdvancedPremium



Bank Muscat. Better Everyday.
Terms and conditions apply.

Oman records OMR 4.6bn trade surplus

Preliminary statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information showed that the total value of merchandise exports reached OMR 19.359 billion by the end of October 2025, marking a decline of 8 percent compared to OMR 21.048 billion recorded during the same period in 2024



MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman's trade balance recorded a surplus of OMR 4.69 billion by the end of October 2025, compared to a surplus of OMR 7.307 billion during the same period in 2024. Preliminary statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) showed that the total value of merchandise exports reached OMR 19.359 billion by the end of October 2025, marking a decline of 8 percent compared to OMR 21.048 billion recorded during the same period in 2024.

In contrast, the total value of merchandise imports rose by 6.8 percent to OMR 14.669 billion, compared to OMR 13.741 billion during the same period last year. The decrease in total exports was mainly attributed to a decline in the value of oil and gas exports, which amounted to OMR 12.135 billion by the end of October 2025, registering a 16.3 percent decrease compared to OMR 14.497 billion at the end of October 2024. Meanwhile, the value of non-oil merchandise exports increased by

9.9 percent, reaching OMR 5.612 billion, compared to OMR 5.106 billion during the same period in 2024. The value of re-exports also recorded an increase of 11.6 percent, reaching OMR 1.612 billion by the end of October 2025, compared to OMR 1.445 billion during the corresponding period of 2024. The United Arab Emirates topped Oman's non-oil export destinations by the end of October 2025, with exports valued at OMR 1.07 billion, reflecting a 27.6 percent increase year-on-year. The UAE also ranked first in re-exports, with a value of OMR 532 million, and remained the largest source of imports to Oman at OMR 3.491 billion. Saudi Arabia ranked second in non-oil exports with OMR 920 million, followed by India at OMR 597 million. In re-exports, Iran came second with OMR 324 million, followed by the United Kingdom at OMR 179 million. As for imports, China ranked second after the UAE, with imports valued at OMR 1.556 billion, followed by the State of Kuwait at OMR 1.257 billion. -ONA

6% fixed deposit rate Accession Day offer from Oman Arab Bank

MUSCAT: In celebration of Accession Day, Oman Arab Bank has announced a special fixed deposit offer exclusively for new-to-bank customers, reaffirming its commitment to supporting financial growth and rewarding customer trust on significant national occasions. For the first time, and available for one day only, Sunday, 11th January 2026, the offer grants the first 300 new-to-bank customers a preferential fixed deposit interest rate of 6% p.a up on booking a deposit ranging from OMR 6,000 to OMR 66,000, with profits payable at maturity. The limited-time initiative reflects Oman Arab Bank's focus on combining strong financial value with simplicity and transparency. To qualify, customers are required to open an Oman Arab Bank current account on the offer day, with the flexibility to transfer funds within one week. As an added benefit, whenever a customer applies for a credit card, the first year's annual fee will be waived. Commenting on the occasion, Sulaiman Al Harthi, Chief Executive Officer of Oman Arab Bank, said, "Accession Day is a moment of national pride and reflection.



Oman Arab Bank marks this important occasion by offering meaningful financial opportunities that encourage long-term savings and stability. This exclusive fixed deposit offer is designed to reward new relationships and support customers as they plan confidently for their future." The promotion is strictly limited to the first 300 eligible new-to-bank customers and will not be extended beyond the designated offer day. Through initiatives such as this Accession Day fixed deposit offer, Oman Arab Bank continues to strengthen its role as a trusted financial partner, delivering customer-centric solutions while aligning with national milestones. The bank remains focused on providing secure, accessible, and value-driven products that meet the evolving needs of individuals across the Sultanate.



Asyad Group
is honored to extend its
warmest greetings and
sincerest wishes to His Majesty
Sultan Haitham bin Tariq
on the occasion of the sixth
anniversary of His Majesty's
Accession to the Throne. May
the Almighty Allah save and
protect His Majesty and the
People of Oman.

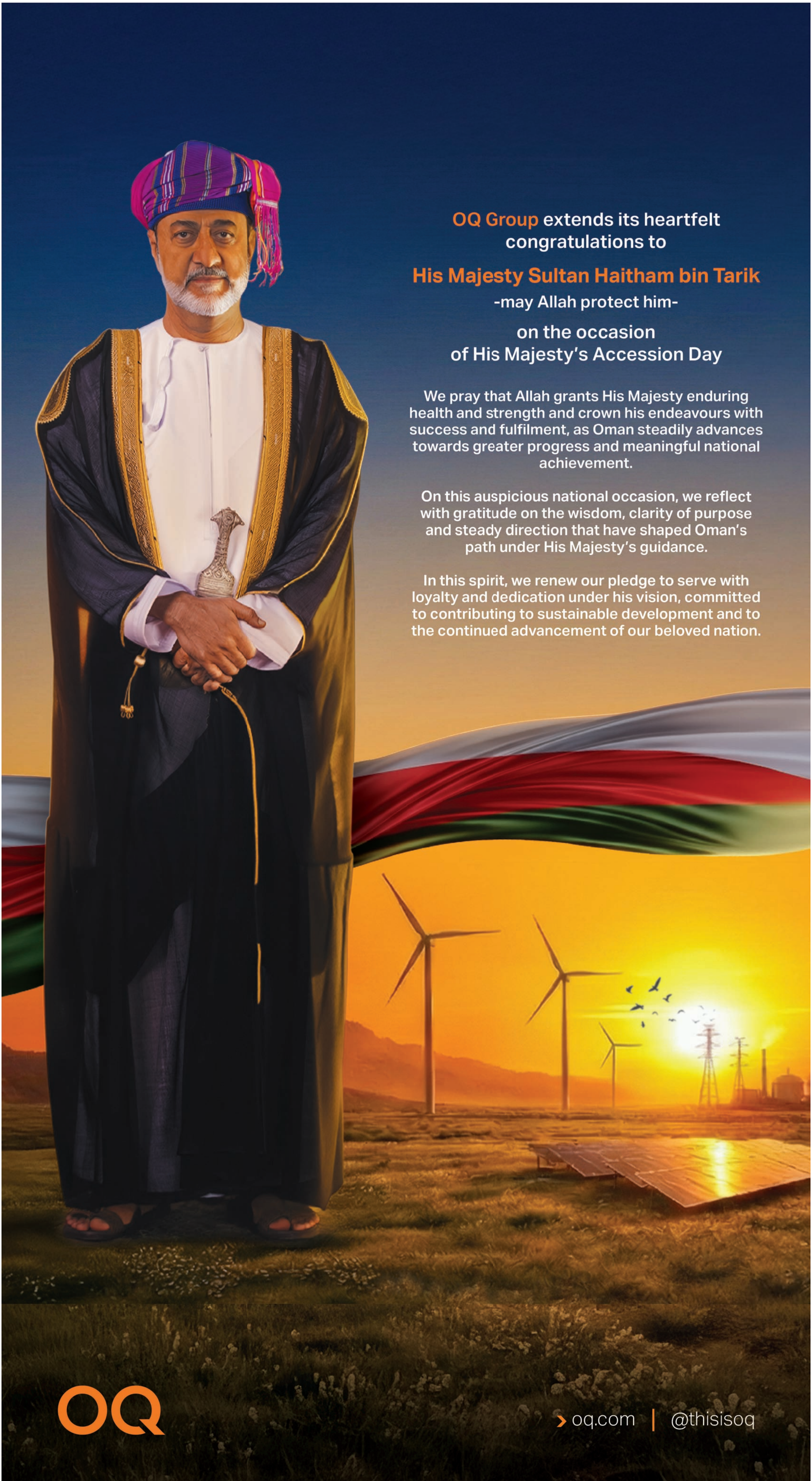


Hind Bahwan Group extends its heartfelt
and sincere congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
on the anniversary of His Majesty's accession.

May His Majesty's vision and guidance
continue to lead the Sultanate to greater heights.

Hind Bahwan Group extends its warm wishes to
the people of Oman and reiterates its commitment to
supporting His Majesty's vision for the Sultanate.





OQ Group extends its heartfelt
congratulations to
His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik
-may Allah protect him-
on the occasion
of His Majesty's Accession Day

We pray that Allah grants His Majesty enduring health and strength and crown his endeavours with success and fulfilment, as Oman steadily advances towards greater progress and meaningful national achievement.

On this auspicious national occasion, we reflect with gratitude on the wisdom, clarity of purpose and steady direction that have shaped Oman's path under His Majesty's guidance.

In this spirit, we renew our pledge to serve with loyalty and dedication under his vision, committed to contributing to sustainable development and to the continued advancement of our beloved nation.

ADVERTISE WITH US.
FIND THE RIGHT **CANDIDATES**
FOR YOUR COMPANY

CONNECT
PRINT EDITION

WWW.TIMESOFOMAN.COM
SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

**PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE**

Email to : amcoman@choueirigroup.com

JOB opportunities

RENT **CARGO** **VACANCY**

**RENT OR
SALE?**

PLACE YOUR
ADVT HERE

Email: amcoman@choueirigroup.com

DNV 2.7-1 OFFSHORE CONTAINERS, REEFER CONTAINER SALES & RENTALS

ISO CONTAINER SALES, CONVERSIONS & RENTALS

CONTAINER SOLUTIONS LLC
Po Box 522, Pc 322, Falaj Al Qabail, Sohar Free Zone, Oman
Tel: +968 9358 5556, +968 99508921, +968 26942610
FAX: 26942611, Email: sales@containersolutions.com.
www.containersolutions.com

**PLACE
YOUR
ADVT HERE**

Send email to: amcoman@choueirigroup.com

JOB VACANCY

EVENT PROMOTER (Female)

We are seeking a young, professional female event promoter. Ideal for university students or fresh graduates. Fluent English required; Arabic is an advantage. Excellent personal presentation and makeup skills are essential.

Please send CV with full-body photo and headshot (with makeup) to: maria@novagram.om

EVENT COORDINATOR

We are seeking an experienced male Event Coordinator with a minimum of 3 years' experience. Must be active, organized, and able to manage events from planning to execution.

Requirements:

- Minimum 3 years experience in event coordination
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Fluent English required
- Flexible working hours and on-site event management

Please send CV to: maria@novagram.om

**3D DESIGNER/
GRAPHIC DESIGNER**

We are looking for a 3D Designer with graphic design experience to join our team.

Requirements:

- Proven experience in 3D design and graphic design
- Event and exhibition booth design experience is a must
- Strong creative and technical skills
- Ability to work under deadlines

CV and portfolio are mandatory
Applications without a portfolio will be automatically disqualified.

Please send your CV + portfolio to: maria@novagram.om

JOB WANTED

DOCUMENT CONTROLLER
Experienced document controller seeking immediate placement in Oman. QA/QC, project coordination, skilled in EDMS, sharepoint, Aconex, and administrative support.
Contact: +971 585841339
Email: bajifazil@gmail.com

FINANCE
Senior Management Accountant/ Finance Manager
Indian male, MBA Finance, 20+ yrs Gulf experience in Accounting, Auditing, Oman VAT, Tax Assessment. Valid Oman Driving License. Available immediately.
Contact: 96987261 (Oman), +917418469385 (India)
Email: wrajan19742003@gmail.com

SALES & MARKETING
Seeking a suitable position in Sales & Marketing having 16 yrs of rich experience in Oman and 2 yrs in Africa in the field of Infrastructure, Construction, Building material and Industrial products having good contacts with clients /consultants. BE Mechanical Engineering, PGDM in Management. Holding Valid Omani D/L.
Contact: 94976056

MANAGER
Finance and Accounts Manager well experienced, MBA finance with 16years experience in Oman. Looking for senior position in Accounts and finance.
Contact No. 95920740
Email ID: alhameed1527@gmail.com

MEDICAL
Pharmacist with 16 yrs exp. in retail & hospital pharmacy in Muscat & India. Previously registered with MOH, Oman with work License, NOC with D/L, currently in Muscat
Contact: 77336141
Email: confession.mercy@gmail.com

BUSINESS HEAD
Accomplished Indian management professional (Engg+MBA). Extensive Marketing & Sales experience in consumer durables industry. Well networked with all channels /corporate of Oman seeking senior management opportunities.
Contact No.: 7708 8859

JOB VACANCY

**URGENTLY REQUIRED
SALES EXECUTIVES**

A leading company in the building materials sector is looking for experienced Sales Executives to join our growing team in Muscat and Salalah.

Requirements:

- Minimum 5 years of experience in selling building materials
- Strong communication and negotiation skills
- Proven track record in achieving sales targets
- Ability to build and maintain customer relationships

Responsibilities:

- Generate new business and manage existing accounts
- Promote company products to dealers, contractors, and builders
- Achieve monthly and annual sales targets

Interested candidates may send their CV to: theprincesgentleman@gmail.com

SERVICE

Cleaning services & pest control specialized cleaning of buildings carpet, sofa shampooing pest control, termite treatment Painting, plumbing, electrical works manpower supply. Glow Services Trading LLC Contact: 99844284, 99450130

JOB WANTED

ADMINISTRATION
Indian female, M.Sc. (Computer Science), overall 13+ yrs of experience in different administrative as well as project roles looking for suitable placement. Contact: 79166904/97498882
Highly skilled accounting and administrative professional with diverse experience in technical and office administration roles Contact: 90473476. Email: kpsanjay202@gmail.com

ENGINEER
Project Manager Civil seasoned professional with strong consultancy and construction expertise. Open for suitable opportunities. Contact: 93455363 | WA +966 56 373 2589 (WhatsApp)
Civil Site Engineer with 20 years experience in building construction in GCC.. 15 yrs in Oman and 5 yrs in UAE. Valid driving license. For contact, Shahedul Islam at 79128770
B. Tech Civil Engineer with 15+ yrs experience. Society Engineering certificate, valid Omani D/L. Looking for a suitable position. Available for immediate join. NOC available. Mob: 91693008

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT
PDO-approved professional with MBA in Operations Management and 20+ yrs in oil & gas/manufacturing, seeking senior leadership in procurement, logistics, or contracts. Contact: 92422764
Indian male Procurement Executive with 11 yrs of experience in Oman, holding Oman D/L available in Muscat for immediate joining. Contact: 92345877
Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading. whatsapp:+96895839964

LOGISTICS
Indian male Graduate with 25 yrs of proven experience in Car rental, fleet Management & logistics. Currently seeking for Senior/ middle management position. Contact: 92152334

LOGISTICS
Indian female with B.Ed. and BCA and 10 yrs of experience in Oman. Experienced in Logistics Operations and TeleSales, with strong communication & customer handling skills. WhatsApp: +968-97384206, Email: rashida_7861@outlook.com.

IT
Indian male MCA graduate with 1+ yrs experience as an IT support, Contact- 9471 8569- Email- syedfarhansj2002@gmail.com
MCA graduate seeking a suitable job opportunity in Oman. Available in Muscat. Contact: 91488059

TECHNICIAN
Telecom technician, networking and fiber optic, Omani driving license. Contact: 91423176

ENGINEER
Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com
Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvi@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225
Project Manager (Civil) Indian, 18 yr GCC experience, valid D/L and transferable visa, can join immediately. Contact: 97723786

ADMINISTRATION
Indian male, 15 yrs experience in Oman seeks job for admin, secretary or proj-coordinator. Holding Oman D/L M: 94019955
Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 78439975
Indian male, 29 yrs, MBA with NEBOSH certified with 2+ yrs experience in administration looking for safety or administration jobs. Contact: +968 74105832, email: ashikhtahir@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Accountant looking for job. Contact: 75024166
Highly skilled chief accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: 79888153
Indian male, MBA, 17 years experienced in key accounts, project sales, business development looking for suitable opportunities. Contact: 92790532
MBA Finance Senior accountant, 13- yrs GCC experience looking for a job upto finalization. Contact: 98869499
Accountant available immediate joiner, Indian male, B.Com, 10+ yrs exp (4 yrs Oman) Expert in Tally & Accounts Contact: 91417133
Indian male MBA, Senior accountant, admin having 10 yrs experience. Contact: 95416322, Email: aabynarayan@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+ yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279
Indian male Sr. Accountant (M.com with Finance) 17+ yrs exp. in Oman with valid D/L. Contact: 91314540
Seeking a job opportunity with solid background of finance and accounts for more than 20 yrs of experience in Oman.contact 92824146 / 94953826
Indian male, M.com (finance) 12 yrs accounting experience in Oman,handling accounts up to finalization independently & business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 99859141,
Management, accounting operations & MIS reporting. Seeking a suitable managerial or senior accounting position. Contact: 78581435
Indian male, Bcom, MBA finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs in accounts. Have valid Oman D/L. Contact:97436925. Email : sandeep_as@yahoo.com
Indian male, M.com (finance) 12 yrs accounting experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently & Business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 99859141,
B.Com, CA Articleship completed 28yrs experience in Muscat Oman. Expert in book keeping, vendor & bank reconciliation, seeking job. Contact : 99072361

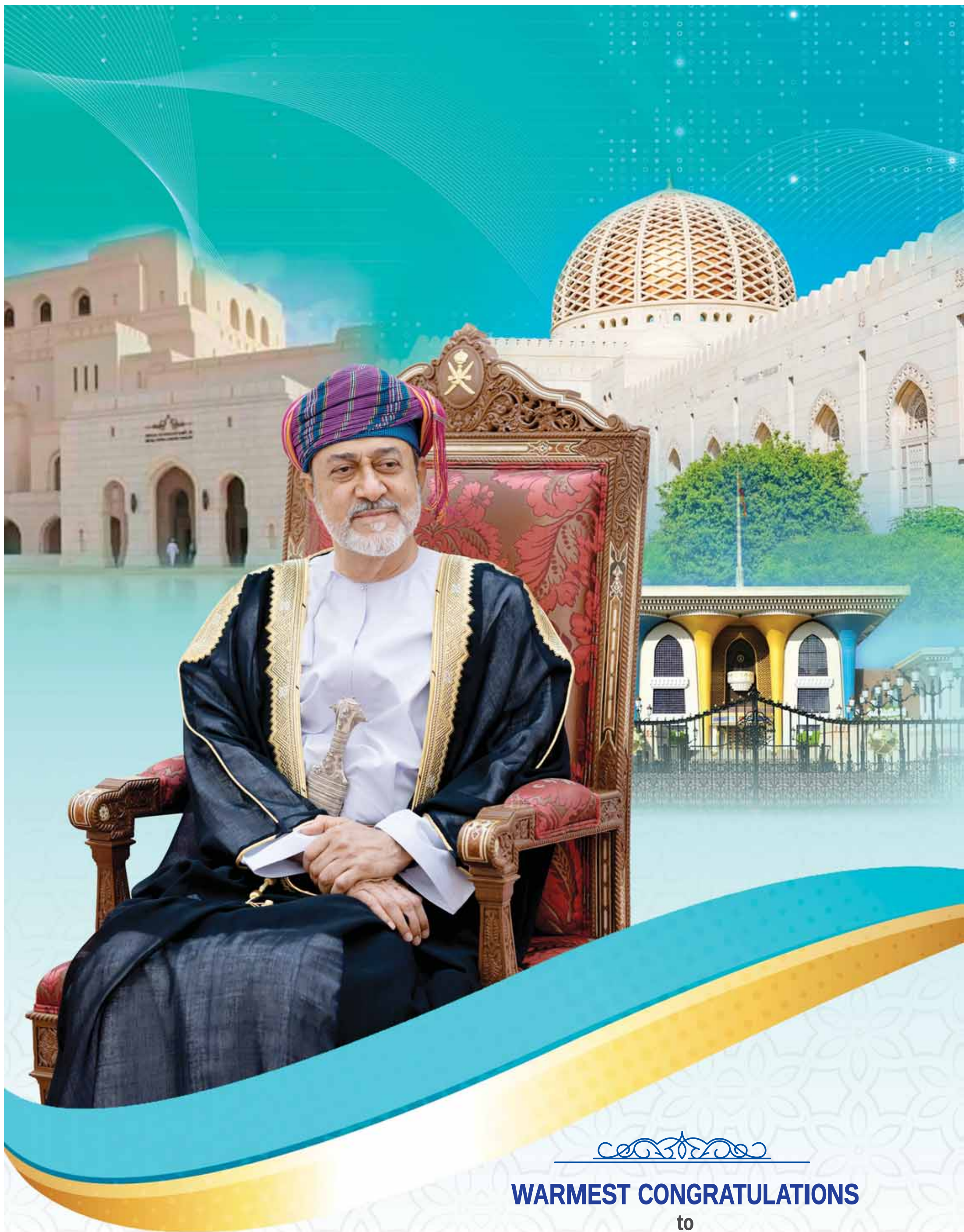
SALES/MARKETING
Looking for Sales Partner in Oil & Gas related supplies & services. Contact : ohvacancy977@hotmail.com
DRIVER
Urgently required house driver for prestigious Omani family with 10 yrs of GCC experience. Interested please send CV ibilitaunited@gmail.com or 77450707

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE
Finance manager, Indian 26yrs of experience, looking Job Change, Contact:- 98006226
Senior Accountant with 14 yrs experience (Oman & UAE) seeking suitable position in Oman. Mob 93150057,
Cost Accountant, B.Com with 15 yrs exp in Oman. Can join urgently. Contact: 7733 6141,
Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp. 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277
Indian male, MBA finance, 15 yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation, VAT submission. Immediate joining. Contact: 96290882, Email: ajithakes@gmail.com
Indian male Accountant.10 years in muscat. D/L and NOC available. 79774800

MANAGER
Accounting Manager, Indian (M), 43yrs, 18+ yrs in Oman, D/L & NOC. Contact: 76432203
Indian male, MBA. 12 yrs of experience as (branch Manager & key accounts executive) looking for suitable position. Contact: 98132055

PURCHASE/PROCUREMENT
Store Manager & Quality Controller with 12 yrs experience (Oman). Diploma in Warehouse & Procurement Management, B.Com graduate. Skilled in inventory, procurement, and compliance. Seeking a suitable position. Email: rajeshkumarkttvm@gmail.com Ph: +968 90218550

HR
B.Tech Computer Science Engineer 2 yrs experience in HR & Operations seeks relevant vacancies, skilled in administration, coordination, documentation, and system support, adaptable,quick learner,result oriented. Immediate joining syedabdulmujeeb04@gmail.com 77229475




WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS
to

HIS MAJESTY SULTAN HAITHAM BIN TARIK
on Sultan's Accession Day

May Oman continue to flourish
under your wise leadership!



STARS LIGHT LLC

H.O. Tel: 24697025, 24697026, Fax: 24600217

Muscat Showroom: Tel: 24595381, Fax: 24595829
Salaalah Showroom: Tel: 23291711, Fax: 23291707,
Email: starmmail@omantel.net.om

Morocco down Cameroon to book spot in semi-finals

Real Madrid winger Brahim Diaz kept up his remarkable Africa Cup of Nations scoring record as the hosts won their quarter-final showdown 2-0 in Rabat on Friday



RABAT: Brahim Diaz kept up his remarkable Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) scoring record and Ismael Saibari was also on target as host Morocco beat Cameroon 2-0 in their quarter-final showdown on Friday to keep its title dreams alive.

Real Madrid winger Diaz got the decisive touch to Ayoub El Kaabi's 26th-minute header in front of more than 64,000 fans at the Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in capital Rabat.

Diaz's fifth goal in five matches at the tournament was followed by

Saibari's strike in the second half, with Morocco well worth its victory as they progressed to a semi-final against the winner of the clash between Algeria and Nigeria.

That promises to be a stiffer test for Walid Regragui's team than that posed by Cameroon, who were hoping to spring an upset having already exceeded expectations in coming this far after a troubled build-up to the tournament.

The Indomitable Lions, five-time African champions, created little with Manchester United forward Bryan Mbeumo struggling to make an impact.

Morocco, Africa's top-ranked team and World Cup semi-finalists in 2022, are under enormous pressure to win the Cup of Nations in front of their own fans, half a century after its last continental title.

There have been doubts as to whether it can handle the weight of expectation, but they remain on course to achieve its objective - it is the first time Morocco have reached the AFCON semi-finals since they lost the 2004 final to Tunisia.

The hosts were unchanged from their 1-0 last-16 win over Tanzania as they looked to continue an un-

beaten record going back to their defeat by South Africa at the 2024 AFCON.

Fresh from knocking out South Africa in the last round here, Cameroon were clearly banking on frustrating Morocco as much as possible in an attempt to turn the crowd against the home side.

Morocco were beaten by the Cameroonians in the semifinals the last time they hosted AFCON in 1988, but a repeat outcome never really looked likely.

David Pagou's team was not helped by the early loss of right wing-back Jackson Tchamadeu,

who tried to carry on after Noursair Mazraoui landed heavily on his knee before eventually being stretchered off.

Moments after that, Morocco scored. Achraf Hakimi sent in a corner from the right which was headed towards goal by El Kaabi at the near post, and the ball struck Diaz in the groin before going in.

That calmed a frenetic home support, who cheered their team off at the break after seeing Abde Ezzalzouli and El Kaabi come close to adding further goals.

Morocco were on top, and Cameroon's response was to change

formation after the break, from a back three to a 4-2-3-1, in an attempt to create more danger.

Ezzalzouli headed just over from a Hakimi corner, and then a cross by the Paris Saint-Germain star caused havoc in the Cameroon box as Samuel Kotto hooked the ball away from the line.

Mbeumo had appeals for a penalty dismissed by the Mauritanian referee before PSV Eindhoven's Saibari fired in the killer second goal on 74 minutes after controlling Ezzalzouli's dead-ball delivery, as Morocco marched on to Wednesday's semis. - Agencies

FIVE-AND-A-HALF-YEAR DEAL

Semenyo wants to 'rewrite history again' at Man City

LONDON: Antoine Semenyo said on Friday that he wants to "rewrite history again" at Manchester City after joining from Bournemouth for a reported fee of £65 million (\$87 million).

The 26-year-old, who has scored 10 Premier League goals this season, has signed a five-and-a-half-year deal at the Etihad and will be a major addition to their attacking arsenal.

Liverpool, Manchester United, and Tottenham Hotspur were also interested in the London-born Ghana international, who had a buyout clause that was understood to expire on Saturday.

The widely trailed transfer is the first major move by Premier League clubs in the January window.

"I have watched City over the last decade under Pep Guardiola, and they have been the dominant team in the Premier League as well as achieving amazing things in the Champions League, FA Cup, and League Cup," said Semenyo.

"They have set the highest of standards, and it's a club with world-class players, world-class facilities, and one of the greatest managers ever in Pep."

The winger said he wanted to be part of City's rebuild after a barren season last year and the



departure of a number of senior players.

"I feel I'm improving, but there are so many young players here who I think will be top players," he said.

"I want to be part of that, and I want to rewrite history again."

His final act after three years with Bournemouth was scoring a spectacular stoppage-time winner in Wednesday's 3-2 victory against Tottenham.

City, dethroned as Premier League champion by Liverpool last season, has signed Semenyo to boost its challenge for silverware on four fronts in 2026.

Guardiola's men trail Arsenal by six points at the top of the Premier League and are still involved in the FA Cup, League Cup, and Champions League. - Agencies

AFCON QUARTER-FINALS

Recalled Ndiaye steers Senegal past 10-man Mali into last four

TANGIERS: Recalled striker Iliman Ndiaye scored in the first half to give Senegal a 1-0 victory over 10-man Mali in Tangiers on Friday in the first Africa Cup of Nations quarter-final.

Mali hopes were dealt a severe blow in first-half added time when Yves Bissouma was sent off after being shown a second yellow card.

The only goal followed a blunder by Mali goalkeeper Djigui Diarra, who then made a string of superb saves to prevent Senegal increasing its lead. Senegal now face defending champion Ivory Coast or record seven-time winner Egypt, who meet in the semi-finals.

Malian Lassine Sinayoko appealed for a penalty just three minutes into the first half, alleging he was fouled by Senegal captain Kalidou Koulibaly, who was back after a one-match suspension.

However, the South African referee waved play on and VAR confirmed his decision was correct. Big-screen replays showed Sinayoko was guilty of simulation.

Mali captain Bissouma was yellow-carded midway through the half for fouling veteran Senegal striker and twice African player of the year Sadio Mane.

Sinayoko then broke clear only



to be foiled by a superb sliding tackle from fellow French Ligue 1 player Krepin Diatta. The deadlock was broken after 27 minutes on a cold, cloudy evening in the Mediterranean city thanks to Ndiaye. He was involved three times in a move which ended with goalkeeper Djigui Diarra allowing a Krepin Diarra cross to slip under his body and Ndiaye struck the loose ball into the net.

While the goal was a gift, it gave Senegal a deserved lead as it had dominated possession in only the second AFCON clash between the two countries. The first was drawn at

the group stage in 2004.

Pape Gueye, who scored twice for Senegal in the last-16 victory over Sudan, was just off target with a shot from outside the box.

Then, for the second successive knockout match, Mali was reduced to 10 men before half-time with Bissouma shown a second yellow card, followed by a red.

The Tottenham Hotspur midfielder fouled Idrissa Gueye in midfield and Malian pleas for the incident to be reviewed by VAR were rejected.

Mali displayed tremendous spirit when reduced to 10 men

against Tunisia in the round of 16, and it was evident again against the Senegalese as the second half progressed. It came close to levelling on 55 minutes when defender Abdoulaye Diaby advanced for a free-kick. His close-range shot brought a reflex save from former Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy.

With 15 minutes of regular time remaining, scorer Ndiaye was substituted. In his place came 17-year-old Paris Saint-Germain forward Ibrahim Mbaye, whose goal sealed victory over Sudan.

Diarra rescued Mali again as time ticked away, blocking a shot from substitute Pathe Ciss, who had broken clear. The Malian goalkeeper made another outstanding save during seven minutes of added time by pushing away a Lamine Camara volley.

Senegal coach Pape Thiaw said: "It was not an easy match against a talented Mali team. Had we been more clinical in front of goal we could have scored more goals."

"It was a difficult match for us because we had to play (half) of it with 10 men," said Mali coach Tom Saintfiet.

"I am proud of the players for what they did, not only tonight but throughout the AFCON." - Agencies

DEFEAT BY LIVERPOOL

Spurs captain Romero given additional ban after red card

LONDON: Tottenham captain Cristian Romero has been given an additional one-match suspension and fined £50,000 for his behaviour during his side's defeat by Liverpool last month.

Romero admitted to a Football Association charge of "acting improperly by failing to leave the field of play promptly" after he was sent off in the 93rd minute of Tottenham's 2-1 loss on 20 December. The Argentine defender was shown a second yellow card for kicking out at Liverpool's Ibrahima Konate after being fouled. His first booking came in the 66th minute for dissent.

Romero was also alleged to have behaved in a "confrontational and/or aggressive manner towards the referee".

Following a hearing, an independent regulatory commission has now imposed a one-match suspension and a £50,000 fine. Romero has already served the automatic one-game suspension on 28 December. - Agencies

ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL



Saka agrees new deal with Arsenal

LONDON: Bukayo Saka has agreed a new long-term contract with Arsenal on Friday. It is understood the new contract will see the 24-year-old become one of the club's highest paid players.

The agreement is the latest example of Arsenal tying down their key players to long-term contracts as they look to keep their title-chasing squad together.

William Saliba, Gabriel Magalhães, Ethan Nwaneri and Myles Lewis-Skelly all signed new long-term contracts in the summer.

England international Saka has become a key player for the Gun-

ners since he made his debut in 2018, having come through the club's Hale End academy.

Last season Saka produced 12 goals and 13 assists in 37 appearances, despite being sidelined for three months with a hamstring injury that required surgery in December 2024.

Saka has been a consistent figure for Arsenal. The 2023-24 season saw him step up as captain for the first time and finish as the club's top scorer with 20 goals. This season he has again impressed with seven goals and six assists in 27 appearances so far. - Agencies

PREMIER LEAGUE SIDE DUMPED

Wrexham stun Forest in shootout to reach FA Cup fourth round

WREXHAM: Wrexham's hopes of another dream season under their Hollywood owners continued as they dumped Premier League Nottingham Forest out of the FA Cup in a third-round penalty shootout thriller after a 3-3 stalemate in regulation and extra-time at the Stok Cae Ras on Friday.

Liberato Cacace and Ollie Rathbone struck in quick succession late in the opening half to put Wrexham in command, although Igor Jesus' eighth goal of the season in the 64th minute gave Forest hope.

Dom Hyam restored Wrexham's lead with a header, but Calum Hudson-Odoi struck twice - including an 89th-minute leveller - as the tie went to penalties after a goalless extra-time.

And keeper Arthur Okonkwo proved the home side's hero as he denied Jesus and Omari Hutchinson in the shootout as Phil Parkinson's men - under the watchful eye of co-owner Ryan Reynolds - won 4-3 on penalties to beat top-flight opposition for the first



time since 1999 and progress into round four.

Forest coach Sean Dyche called for some of his players to "have a look in the mirror" after an "unacceptable" first-half performance in their loss at Wrexham.

Forest were the first Premier League side in third-round action and the first casualty at the hands of lower league opposition.

Having made eight changes

from Tuesday's Premier League win at West Ham, Dyche watched in fury as his side trailed their Championship opponents 2-0 at the break.

They fought back to make it 3-3 and force extra-time at Stok Cae Ras, but were beaten 4-3 in the penalty shootout after Igor Jesus and Omari Hutchinson had their spot-kicks saved by home keeper Arthur Okonkwo. - Agencies

All-new Chevrolet Cruze arrives in Sultanate of Oman, blending smart technology with everyday comfort

The all-new Cruze showcases a sleek, aerodynamic exterior that reflects Chevrolet's contemporary design philosophy, delivering both visual appeal and enhanced driving efficiency

MUSCAT: Chevrolet Oman announced the launch of the all-new Chevrolet Cruze. Designed for modern drivers who value efficiency, comfort, and smart technology, the new Cruze reintroduces the Chevrolet sedan experience with a bold design language and thoughtfully integrated features.

The all-new Cruze showcases a sleek, aerodynamic exterior that reflects Chevrolet's contemporary design philosophy, delivering both visual appeal and enhanced driving efficiency.

Inside, the sedan offers a refined and comfortable cabin, making it ideal for daily commutes as well as longer journeys.



"The all-new Cruze represents a strong addition to the Chevrolet range, reintroducing the globally trusted sedan to the Chevrolet lineup in Oman," said a spokesperson from OTE Group. "It brings together smart technology, comfort, and everyday practicality, making

it a compelling choice for customers looking for a modern, value-driven vehicle."

Powered by a 1.5L engine, the Chevrolet Cruze balances performance with fuel efficiency, catering to drivers seeking a reliable and economical drive without compro-

promising on responsiveness. Practicality is further enhanced with a generous 405-litre cargo space, providing ample room for everyday needs and weekend getaways.

Technology takes center stage in the new Cruze, featuring a dual 10.25-inch infotainment system

that delivers an intuitive, connected, and immersive in-car experience. Safety remains a top priority, with key features including multiple safety airbags and a rear-view camera, ensuring confidence and peace of mind on every drive.

All Chevrolet vehicles in Oman

are backed by OTE Group's nationwide after-sales service network, ensuring reliable support and peace of mind throughout the ownership journey. Customers can visit Chevrolet showrooms in Wattayah, Seeb, Barka, Sohar, Niwza, and Salalah.

EDUCATION GROUP

ABQ announces academic scholarships for 2026-2027

MUSCAT: ABQ Education Group, the leading international school operator in Oman, has officially opened applications for its highly regarded Academic Merit Scholarship Programme for the 2026-2027 academic year, continuing its strong commitment to recognising and nurturing outstanding secondary students across Oman.

Now entering its fourth year, the programme has consistently attracted significant interest. Each year, 12 exceptional students are awarded scholarships and celebrated at a formal awards ceremony, reflecting ABQ's commitment to academic excellence and student empowerment.

The scholarship programme is open to all current Grade 8-11 students in Oman, offering successful candidates the opportunity to study at one of ABQ's three globally accredited international schools in Muscat and Sohar.

Since its launch in 2023, the initiative has become a sought-after pathway for high-performing students seeking a world-class international education.

Commenting on the pro-



gramme, ABQ Education Group Chief Executive Officer, Ali Asgar Shroff, said: "Our scholarship programme is designed to open doors for motivated and talented students across Oman. We firmly believe that access to quality education empowers young people to realise their potential and build meaningful futures."

The scholarships provide a full waiver of tuition fees for two academic years, with Grade 12 scholarships awarded for one academic year only, in line with programme guidelines. Applications close on 22 January.

LANDMARK WATERFRONT DESTINATION

New chapter for Barr Al Jissah: Hilton opens 3 hotels on Oman's iconic coastline

MUSCAT: Hilton (NYSE: HLT) has introduced three hotels at Barr Al Jissah, a landmark waterfront destination celebrated for its natural beauty.

Nestled between the cliffs of Al Jissah and the Gulf of Oman, the properties offer a blend of family-friendly options, vibrant event spaces, and elevated luxury experiences. Owned by The Zubair Corporation and located just 40 minutes from Muscat International Airport, the openings usher in a new chapter of world-class hospitality along Oman's coastline.

Guy Hutchinson, President, Middle East & Africa, Hilton, said: "As Oman's travel and tourism sector continues to thrive, we are proud to open these three hotels at Barr Al Jissah - the country's iconic seaside destination. We look forward to contributing to its success through our portfolio of world-class brands, and our global network. Together with The Zubair Corporation, we aim to strengthen Oman's position as a leading tourism destination, supporting the nation's Vision 2040 goal of attracting 11 million visitors annually and driving sustainable growth in the sector."

Niels Bormans, Group Chief Executive Officer, The Zubair Cor-

poration, added: "Today marks a milestone moment for Barr Al Jissah and for Oman's hospitality sector as a whole. We are pleased to officially welcome Hilton as the new operator of Barr Al Jissah Resorts, confident that their global experience, operational excellence, and shared commitment to quality will further elevate the three hotels. This partnership reflects our belief in long-term value creation through world-class collaborations that support tourism growth and talent development, in line with the goals of Oman Vision 2040."

The three hotels at Barr Al Jissah each deliver a distinct yet complementary experience.

Al Husn Hotel Muscat, an affiliate of Waldorf Astoria, combines luxury with Omani heritage to create a serene coastal escape. Featuring 180 guest rooms and suites with uninterrupted views of the Gulf of Oman, the hotel offers an elevated experience for couples, honeymooners, and discerning travellers seeking privacy, tranquility, and refined luxury. The property's design is inspired by an Omani fort, symbolically overlooking the rest of the destination. Exclusive amenities include a private beach, an infinity pool, and a spa.

Following planned renovations in 2027, Al Husn Hotel Muscat will be rebranded as a Waldorf Astoria.

Hilton Muscat Al Bandar is Barr Al Jissah's lifestyle and business hub. With state-of-the-art indoor and outdoor event spaces, including a ballroom accommodating up to 850 guests, expansive outdoor event spaces and a dedicated amphitheater, Hilton Muscat Al Bandar is a premier venue for weddings, corporate events, and large-scale gatherings.

At the heart of the 198 guest-room property is a lively poolside bar, La Jolla, alongside a selection of restaurants and lounges.

DoubleTree by Hilton Muscat Al Waha offers a relaxed, family-friendly experience rooted in comfort, beginning with the brand's chocolate chip cookie welcome. The resort features 302 spacious guest rooms and suites and its architecture reflects the charm of an Omani village, creating a sense of place that feels authentic and inviting. Perfect for family getaways, the resort boasts multiple pools and a waterslide along with access to shared facilities across Barr Al Jissah.

The three hotels share the extensive recreational, dining, and leisure amenities of the Barr Al

Jissah complex, ensuring a seamless guest journey across the destination. Shared recreational facilities include multiple swimming pools, tennis courts, Oman's only lazy river, and over 500 meters of private beachfront. Guests can also enjoy water sports such as kayaking and diving, with a PADI-certified dive centre offering courses suitable for all experience levels. Wellness enthusiasts will appreciate the destination's spa facilities, which include The Spa, offering treatments inspired by Omani Rose, and Luban Spa, known for its use of Frankincense.

The hotels are part of Hilton Honors, the award-winning guest loyalty programme for Hilton's 25 world-class brands. Members who book directly have access to instant benefits, including a flexible payment slider that allows members to choose nearly any combination of Points and money to book a stay, an exclusive member discount, free standard Wi-Fi and the Hilton Honors mobile app. Book direct at Hilton.com, through the Hilton Honors app or through other official Hilton channels for more perks and a price match guarantee. Hilton Honors members can redeem Points using the Points Explorer tool.

OMAN INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL

OIH launches child care card and women wellness card

MUSCAT: Oman International Hospital (OIH) officially launched its Child Care Card and Women Wellness Card at a special ceremony held at the JW Marriott Hotel, Muscat, under the patronage of Amal Suhail Bahwan, Chairperson of Al Afia Healthcare Development and Investment Company.

The launch marks an important milestone in OIH's ongoing commitment to preventive, structured, and family-centered healthcare, reinforcing its long-term approach to supporting health and wellbeing across every stage of life.

The Child Care Card is a comprehensive wellness program designed for children from birth to 16 years of age. It emphasizes prevention, early diagnosis, and timely access to specialist care, supporting healthy growth, development,



and continuity of care throughout childhood and adolescence.

The Women Wellness Card is a preventive healthcare initiative

tailored to women across all age groups. It comprises two dedicated segments - Maternity & Motherhood Wellness and General

Women's Wellness - offering personalized, stage-specific care that promotes early detection, wellbeing, and long-term health outcomes.

During the event, Oman International Hospital expressed its sincere appreciation to patients and families for their continued trust. The occasion also commemorated key milestones in the hospital's journey, including the recognition of the first baby born at OIH and the first twins delivered at the hospital, symbolizing the trust families place in OIH at some of life's most significant moments.

Commenting on the launch, Marcelo Pereira, Chief Executive Officer of Oman International Hospital, stated: "At Oman International Hospital, we see healthcare as a long-term relationship built on trust, consistency, and responsibility. The Child Care Card and Women Wellness Card reflect our commitment to moving beyond episodic treatment toward

structured, preventive care models that support families across the course of their lives."

Addressing the gathering, Amal Suhail Bahwan highlighted the broader societal impact of preventive healthcare, saying: "Preventive healthcare is one of the most effective investments a society can make in its future. Initiatives such as the Child Care Card and Women Wellness Card strengthen early detection, promote wellbeing, and contribute to healthier families and more resilient communities."

Oman International Hospital is a leading multi-specialty healthcare institution committed to delivering patient-centric, high-quality medical services, supported by advanced technology, robust clinical governance, and highly experienced medical professionals.



شركة تنمية طاقة عُمان
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT OMAN



On the occasion of Accession Day, **Energy Development Oman**
extends its congratulations to

His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik

May Oman continue to prosper under his visionary leadership for
years to come.