



HM SENDS GREETINGS TO LUXEMBOURG

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to Henri Albert, Grand Duke of Luxembourg on his country's National Day. In his cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere greetings and wishes of good health and happiness to him and for his country's people further progress and prosperity. — **ONA**



Founded 1975 · Volume 49 No. 78 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group

[TIMESOFOMAN.COM](#) [FACEBOOK.COM/TIMESOFOMAN](#) [TWITTER.COM/TIMESOFOMAN](#) [YOUTUBE.COM/USER/TIMESOFOMANONLINE](#) [TIMESOFOMAN.COM/WHATSAPP](#) [TIMESOFOMAN.COM/RSS](#) [LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/TIMES-OF-OMAN](#) [INSTAGRAM.COM/TIMESOFOMAN](#)



Apply for Meethaq credit card and get first year annual fee reversal

Terms and conditions apply. Valid until 31st of August 2024.



TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN 2,000 attend yoga day event in Muscat

1 The Embassy of India in Muscat, in association with the Indian School Muscat, hosted the mega celebration of the 10th International Day of Yoga. The event saw the participation of 2,000 people from all walks of life. **>A2**

OMAN Dhofar Khareef season begins

2 Dhofar Khareef (monsoon) season 2024 began on Friday, 21 June. The tropical wet season prevails most intensely in the coastal wilayats of Dhofar Governorate in the Sultanate of Oman. **>A4**

WORLD e-medical visa for Bangladesh people

3 India will start an e-medical visa facility for Bangladesh nationals coming to the country for treatment, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday. **>A6**



GAZA DEATH TOLL
as of June 22, 2024

Deaths
37,551

Injured
85,911



HIS MAJESTY THE SULTAN OFFERS EID AL ADHA PRAYERS

The Sultanate of Oman celebrated the first day of Eid Al Adha on Monday. His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik performed the prayers of Eid Al-Adha for the year 1445 AH at Al Murtafaa Garrison Mosque in Muscat Governorate. **>A4**

135 NATIONALITIES INVEST IN MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

The total value of trading rose to OMR517mn until May 2024, compared to OMR373.5 million in same period last year



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The total number of nationalities that have invested on the Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) has reached 135, according to the statistics issued by the bourse on its website.

The MSX is working to attract more investors by providing an integrated database on listed companies by increasing awareness of investment opportunities.

Also, the MSX is diversifying its investment tools and urging public joint stock companies listed on the stock exchange to adhere to the principles of disclosure and transparency and encouraging government companies and fami-

ly-owned businesses to transform into private companies.

The capital market in the Sultanate of Oman said that the exchange is offering many investment advantages that support foreign investments.

These include relatively low tax rates, no restrictions on transferring capital and profits abroad, no restrictions on exchange operations, and the exchangeability of the Omani rial against other currencies with its link to an exchange rate.

Pegged to the US dollar, foreign investors can also invest in shares of companies or investment funds listed on the Muscat Stock Ex-

change without any prior permission, in addition to the presence of an independent supervisory body that guarantees a fair and stable market, protects investors' rights, and ensures the highest levels of transparency, disclosure and integrity.

The percentage of foreign investment allowed in most public joint stock companies listed on the MSX is 100 percent.

According to statistics, foreign investments are concentrated in the industrial and services sectors at a rate of 15.8 percent and 15.7 percent, respectively.

While Gulf investors focus was on services sector and finan-

cial sector at 15.4 percent and 8 percent respectively, Arab (non-Gulf) investments mainly was in the financial sector at 3 percent.

The local investments are concentrated in the financial sector at a rate of 87.6 percent, industrial sector at a rate of 75.6 percent and the services sector at a rate of 67.7 percent.

The first half of this year witnessed an increase in the volume and value of trading.

The total value of trading rose to OMR517 million until May 2024, compared to OMR373.5 million in the same period last year, recording an increase of 38.4 percent. **>A5**

FESTIVE MOOD

Back to work as Eid holiday ends

Times News Service

MUSCAT: As the nine-day Eid Al Adha holiday came to an end, citizens and residents rejoined their duties on Sunday.

A large rush was witnessed at the Muscat International Airport on Saturday after people returned from a long break from the neighbouring and home countries.

Since Eid Al-Adha is associated with sacrifices, many wilayats of the Sultanate of Oman witnessed active commercial engagements marked by a festive mood that is manifested in cultural, social and sports events.

In many governorates, villagers organised open souqs (markets) and tents that attracted a large number of shoppers eager to collect their Eid supplies.

As most of the Eid products are provided by owners of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and

artisans, they had good business this time. The exhibits included ready-made wear, perfumes and household supplies. Self-employed families also showcased products from the Omani cuisine and local crafts.

For those who couldn't fly out, staycations were also a popular choice. However, many opted to travel to popular tourist destinations like the UAE, Turkiye, Malaysia, Georgia or the Indian subcontinent. Many expats are ruining the missed chances of buying tickets early. Since school vacations coincided with Eid Al Adha holiday this time, the rush was unprecedented this year.

The price to most of the destinations to India sky-rocketed and went beyond the reach of the common man. Even the price of a one-way ticket was more than double the fare of a return ticket in normal times. **>A2**



PHOTO: PURUSHOTAMAN



شانجان أوتو
CHANGAN AUTO
قيادة نحو آفاق أوسع

UNI-T SPORT

1.5L Turbo Engine, 175 hp, 7-Speed DCT, 2WD
SUPER WARRANTY 6 YEARS / UNLIMITED MILEAGE*





EMI
OMR 155*
for 6 years

800 50800

Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC

*Terms and Conditions Apply

*Easy Monthly Installment is calculated based on 20% down payment for 6 years loan tenure. Subject to credit approvals from Banks only. 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, Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930

Sales Centers : Nizwa 96628940, Barka 96629010, Ibra 96628920

2,000 people attend mega yoga day event organised by Indian embassy

Yoga promotes the oneness of mind, body, and soul for individuals, while fostering a sense of unity and togetherness

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Embassy of India in Muscat, in association with the Indian School Muscat, hosted the mega celebration of the 10th International Day of Yoga.

The event saw the participation of 2,000 people from all walks of life, including Indian nationals, resident ambassadors in Oman, and members of the diplomatic corps, Omani citizens, and students from Indian schools.

As part of the celebrations, a common Yoga Protocol was conducted. This year's theme, "Yoga for Self and Society," reflects the impact yoga has on both individual well-being and societal harmony.

Yoga promotes the oneness of mind, body, and soul for individuals, while fostering a sense of unity and togetherness within society.

Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to the Sultanate of Oman, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the essence of yoga in today's context.

He said: "Yoga not only enhances personal health and well-being but also strengthens the social fabric by promoting unity and harmony."

The ambassador also expressed his gratitude to all participants, yoga organisations, sponsors, and volunteers who contributed to the



success of the event.

In the lead-up to the 10th International Day of Yoga, the Embassy launched the "Marhaban Yoga: Health, Harmony, and Healing" initiative in April 2024.

Under this initiative, more than 30 yoga events were conducted by

the Embassy in association with various yoga organisations in Oman over two months.

These events took place across the country, catering to people of all ages, from children to the elderly.

The sessions focused on diverse

themes such as health, harmony, healing, peace, mindfulness, and well-being, promoting the benefits of yoga for everyone.

A flagship curtain-raiser event was conducted in Salalah, which stood out among the series of events organized under Marhaban



Yoga.

It drew over 300 participants, including several Omani dignitaries, with Jamal al-Moosawi, Secretary General of the National Museum of Oman, participating as the Guest of Honour.

This series of events, built on the success of previous initiatives such as the Oman Yoga Yatra in

2022 and the Muscat Yog Mahotsav in 2023, all aimed at popularising yoga throughout Oman.

The popularity of yoga as a health discipline continues to grow in Oman, attracting a wide range of practitioners who embrace its benefits for physical health, mental clarity, and emotional stability.

FOREIGN MINISTRY

Oman hails Armenia move to recognise Palestine State

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has welcomed the decision of the Republic of Armenia to recognise the state of Palestine.

In a statement, Oman's Foreign Ministry urged the international community to follow suit in order to preserve the rights of the Palestinian people to establish their

independent state and enhance all efforts to support the two-state solution for achieving lasting and sustainable peace in the region.

On Friday, the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced its official recognition of the State of Palestine, becoming the 149th country to take this step.

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation also welcomed Ar-

menia's decision to recognise the State of Palestine, stressing that this important step is consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.

The organisation explained that this decision will contribute to international efforts aimed at ending the Israeli occupation and empowering the Palestinian people with their legitimate rights, including

their right to self-determination, and the embodiment of their independent state on the borders of June 4, 1967.

The organisation renewed its call to all countries of the world, which have not yet recognised the State of Palestine, to support its right to full membership in the UN, aimed at achieving peace and stability in the region.



sifr
SODIUM FREE
DRINKING WATER

**Exclusive
OFFER**

Eid Mubarak

Hot & Cold Dispenser
2 Full Bottles
30 Refill coupons

White Tap Dispenser
2 Full Bottles
15 Refill coupons

oman OASIS
OASIS WATER COMPANY SAOG
P.O. Box 87, Ruqayy 124, Sultanate of Oman
Call us today on 800 71 222
Offer valid from 12th March to 30th June 2024.

800 71 222
9275 5522

OAA

Motorsports returns to Khareef Dhofar

Times News Service

SALALAH: The Oman Automobile Association (OAA) is delighted to announce the return of Motorsports at Khareef Dhofar.

The event started from June 21. This premier event promises an exhilarating Khareef season in Dhofar, offering to motorsport devotees of all ages and experience levels.

Karting Circuit Experience
Location: Salalah Celebrations Square. Date: June 21, Time: 4:00 PM to 11:00 PM.

The Karting Circuit Experience returns to Khareef Dhofar this

year, designed to be an unforgettable adventure.

This activity allows participants aged five and above to test their mettle on a state-of-the-art go-karting circuit. The OAA offers a diverse fleet of karts, including Rt8, Dino, Baby Kart, and Double Seater models. This ensures a fun and secure experience for everyone, fostering a spirit of friendly competition and adrenaline-pumping excitement.

Digital Motorsports
Location: Salalah Celebrations Square - Digital Room. Date: June 21, Time: 4:00 PM to 11:00 PM.

For those who thrive in the vir-

tual realm, the OAA presents the Digital Motorsports event.

This section provides an immersive environment for participants to compete in virtual racing competitions. Featuring cutting-edge driving simulators, this activity allows motorsport enthusiasts to hone their racing skills on a virtual track, offering the exhilarating experience of motorsport competition in a digital format.

International Driving Licence Service

Location: Salalah Celebrations Square, Date: June 21, Time: 4:00 to 11:00 PM. Adding to the overall convenience, the OAA will

establish an International Driving License issuing section at the Salalah Celebration Square. This service streamlines the process for visitors seeking to obtain their international driving permits, further enhancing their Dhofar Khareef experience.

The return of Motorsports during the Khareef Dhofar Festival promises to be a attraction this Khareef season. The OAA looks forward to welcoming motorsport enthusiasts from across the region and offering them a unique and unforgettable experience filled with exhilarating competition, cutting-edge technology, and unparalleled convenience.

MUSCAT MUNICIPALITY

< FROM A1 Fine for barbecue in prohibited areas

So they had no other alternative but to visit the cooler destinations up the mountains of Jabal Akhdar and Jabal Shams and neighbouring areas of Al Hamra.

Wadi Dayqah dam, Wadi Al Arbaeen and Wadi Shab along with Sur, also saw a good number of visitors from Oman and neighbouring UAE.

"It was a nice break to enjoy with family. It is a blessed occasion and we caught up with our family members in our farm in Al Rustaq," said an Omani Mohammed Al Mahqousi.

As the holidays ended, it is time



to return to work, says Amitabh Kumar, a senior executive in a private sector firm, who spent a couple of nights at Jabal Akhdar.

"We enjoyed the cool weath-

er. It was quite crowded as a lot of people had gone to enjoy the pleasant weather in Jabal Akhdar," he said.

For those going for day-out,

Muscat Municipality had a stern warning. It said: "In order to preserve the environment and public health, the municipality prohibits barbecue in gardens, parks and beaches, including green spaces, and advises to use the sites designated for them. Grilling in public places causes harmful effects that includes, damaging public facilities, burning green areas, disturbing visitors and residents and spreading fumes and unpleasant odours."

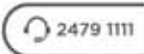
It said those breaking the order will have to pay an administrative fine of OMR100.



BANKING THAT IS PROUDLY HUMAN

**THE DIFFERENCE..
OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU**

With **120+** branches, More than **360** ATMs and CDMs we are always at your service.

 [bankdhofar](#)  2479 1111  [www.bankdhofar.com](#)


بنك ظفار
BankDhofar

HM’S GREETINGS CONVEYED TO EU PRESIDENT

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, received Ruaa bint Issa Al Zadjali who presented her credentials as head of the Sultanate of Oman’s delegation to the European Union. During the meeting, she conveyed the greetings of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the President of the European Commission. — **ONA**



LOW-COST CARRIER

SalamAir adds Chennai to its growing India network

Times News Service

MUSCAT: SalamAir, Oman’s fastest-growing low-cost carrier, has announced the addition of Chennai, India, to its growing network of destinations.

Starting July 11, 2024, SalamAir will operate two weekly flights to Chennai every Thursday and Saturday, offering convenient connections and exceptional service between Muscat and this vibrant South Indian city, a statement said.

“With Chennai’s addition, SalamAir has achieved another significant step in its mission to increase connectivity not only between India and Muscat but also through



out the region. It now joins the ranks of other recently launched destinations including Delhi, Cairo, Islamabad, and Lahore.”

“We are thrilled to introduce our new service to Chennai, a significant milestone that enhances the connectivity of the South Indian community in Oman and the wider Gulf region, said Harish Kutty, Director of Revenue and Network Planning for SalamAir. With its rich cultural heritage and economic vitality, Chennai presents immense opportunities for residents, business and leisure travellers.”

Panasonic



Win exciting Panasonic prizes!
on every purchase of **Panasonic air conditioner** entitles you to a Scratch & Win coupon

*Promotion validity is 20th May - 30th Jun, 2024
*Terms & Conditions apply. Please read the terms mentioned on the coupon.
*Promotion is valid across OMASCO verified Dealer channel in Oman and Selected Mass Merchandisers.

Oman Marketing and Services Company L.L.C.
Partner to the Best Brands
P.O. Box: 2734; P.C.: 112; Ruwi, Tel.: 24665762, Fax: 24565841
[www.omasco.com](#)

 [Panasonic Oman](#) [@OmascoLLC](#) [Panasonicoman](#) [OmascoRetail.Feedback@alfuttaim.com](#) [Service WhatsApp # 24582180](#)



INSPIRING TRUST ACROSS THE GLOBE

28
HOSPITALS

ACROSS THE COUNTRY

4
JCI

ACCREDITED FORTIS HOSPITALS

25
NABH

ACCREDITED FORTIS HOSPITALS

4600+
BEDS

(OPERATIONAL)

OUR SPECIALITIES

- BMT
- CARDIAC SCIENCES
- DERMATOLOGY
- DIABETOLOGY/ENDOCRINOLOGY
- EMERGENCY AND TRAUMA
- ENDOCRINE SURGERY
- ENT (COCHLEAR IMPLANT)
- GENERAL SURGERY
- HAEMATOLOGY
- INFECTIOUS DISEASES
- INFERTILITY MEDICINE
- NEPHROLOGY
- NEUROLOGY
- NEUROSURGERY
- ONCOLOGY
- ORTHOPAEDICS
- PAEDIATRICS
- PULMONOLOGY
- RADIOLOGY
- RHEUMATOLOGY
- SPINE SURGERY
- THORACIC SURGERY
- TRANSFUSION MEDICINE
- UROLOGY
- VASCULAR SURGERY
- OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY
- PHYSIOTHERAPY AND REHABILITATION
- PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
- GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOBIILIARY SCIENCES
- ORGAN TRANSPLANT (KIDNEY, LIVER & HEART)

For more information, visit
[www.fortishealthcare.com](#)

For any assistance, queries or medical opinions, please Call or WhatsApp
Dr. Shubham Dhankar +91 9958546006 or Ms. Perna Sharma +91 8800828010



Al Hashar Electronics LLC

**“DISCOVER THE WIDEST RANGE
FOR EVERY BUDGET - Perfect For Any Pocket!”**

Refrigerators - Built-Ins - Cooking Range- Microwaves - Dishwasher - Washing Machine - Air Conditioners - LED TV’s - Vacuum Cleaners

 **SCAN QR CODE
FOR LOCATION**

For more details, visit or call: Ruwi HO: 94584337 Sohar: 92228272  +968-94202775



EID SERMON

<FROM A1 ‘Hajj represents a detachment of the soul from sins’

Upon the arrival of His Majesty, the Supreme Commander, at Al Murtafaa Garrison, a squadron from the Guard of Honour gave the military salute, welcoming His Majesty's auspicious arrival.

Dr. Mohammed Said Al Maamari, Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs, led the worshipers and delivered the Eid sermon, thanking the Almighty Allah for the blessings of peace and praying for the soul of Prophet Mohammed.

The Eid sermon stressed that the days of Hajj pilgrimage constitute a renewal of faith in monotheism, a reinforcement of the virtues of good morals and sound values, during the times of ease, the times of hardship, in war and in peace. It explained that heavenly guidance is manifest in successful nation-building, coupled with security, economy, citizenship and good relationships among compatriots on the nation's soil.

Al Maamari said that Pilgrims' setting out on the pilgrimage journey, clad with Ihram (simple clothing) and hailing from different places on the globe is symbolic of unity and obedience to the Almighty Allah, as well as keenness to guard the principles of faith and savour the fruits of good faith.

In the sermon, the minister proclaimed gratitude to Allah for the riches and bounties He has bestowed on humanity. He quoted a verse of the Holy Quran exhorting mankind to obey the Almighty, worship Him and engage in good deeds.

Al Maamari pointed out that, besides constituting a renewal of faith in monotheism, the days of Hajj represent a detachment of the soul from sins, while the heart embraces the beauty of being and the body demonstrates that in practice. In this context, he quoted a verse in the Holy Quran in which Allah the Almighty ordered Prophet Ibrahim to purify the Holy House (Kaaba) for worshippers who throng the edifice in a reenactment of accomplished faith.

Al Maamari added that "Hajj shrines and practices are also symbolic of the paradoxes of life and



existence, since diversity is part of the human experience that ranges between good and evil throughout the ages.

The pilgrimage is a summary of the journey of life in its diversity—with the movement and

stillness shaping the integration of lifestyles and the consummation of the existence of the whole mankind".

Al Maamari further elaborated that the Hajj practice provides insights into nation-building. "When

we contemplate Prophet Ibrahim's setting up the shrines of Hajj, we are inspired to build the pillars of the homeland in the same dedicated way, establish the nation's security, develop its economy and accomplish its prosperity," he said.

In the sermon, Al Maamari prayed to Allah the Almighty to protect His Majesty the Sultan and grant him good health and wellbeing. He also prayed to the Almighty to protect Oman, safeguard its resources and endow

its security with further prosperity, progress, harmony, peace and tranquility.

Al Maamari also prayed to Allah the Almighty to support the oppressed in Palestine and elsewhere, and bestow His blessings of peace on them.

After performing the Eid prayers, His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik accepted greetings from well-wishers and exchanged cordial sentiments with them.

As His Majesty the Sultan left Al Murtafaa Garrison, the Sultan of Oman's artillery (Royal Army of Oman) fired twenty-one rounds in salutation of the Supreme Commander.

After that, the Royal motorcade of His Majesty the Sultan left Al Murtafaa Garrison amid heartfelt calls from members of the armed forces, praying to the Almighty Allah to protect him and bless him with good health and a long life.

The prayers were performed alongside His Majesty the Sultan by Royal Family members, ministers, commanders of the Sultan's Armed Forces (SAF) and military and security services, undersecretaries and advisers, senior officers and retired SAF officers and other military and security service personnel. -ONA

Dhofar Khareef season 2024 begins

SALALAH: Dhofar Khareef (monsoon) season 2024 began on Friday, 21 June. The tropical wet season prevails most intensely in the coastal wilayats of Dhofar Governorate in the Sultanate of Oman.

The climatic condition begins when monsoon winds and rain clouds accumulate over the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean and move westwards into the Sultanate of Oman.

Once conditions are ripe, the damp spell of the monsoon extends gradually in the governorate, from the Wilayat of Dhalkout in the west to the Wilayat of Mirbat in the east.

Though they arrive from the east of Dhofar, the monsoon clouds condense in the upper layers of the atmosphere over the western hills and eventually burst in the nearest land areas, namely in Dhalkout. Then, the rainy pattern moves eastwards. The season continues until 21 September every year.

In stark contrast to other parts in Oman, the monsoon season is characterized by moderate temperatures, which drop further in the high mountainous areas that are shrouded in fog, accompanied with light rains. This makes Dhofar Governorate a destination for visitors from Oman and tourists from different countries of the world.

During the Khareef, Dhofar turns into a paradise of lush green dells, hills and plains that experience daily light rains and intermittent drizzle.

In the meantime, the springs in Dhofar get replenished and turn into tourist hotspots. These include the springs of Razat, Hamran, Jarziz, Sahalnout and Tabruk. Once they receive enough water supplies, the springs overflow, making waterfalls that are common during the month of August. Large waterfalls include those of Darbat, Athoum, Koor and Jawjab. This is in addition to Al Hawta Waterfall in the Wilayat of Rakhyut.

Dhofar Governorate stands out for the diversity of its terrain rang-



ing from marine and agricultural plains to mountainous and desert environments.

Dhofar Governorate also boasts a variety of archaeological and historical sites that are registered in the World Heritage List, notably Al Baleed and Samharam Archaeological Parks, the Land of Frankincense Museum and historical forts in the wilayats of Rakhyout, Taqah, Mirbat and Sadah.

Urban features in Dhofar include shopping centre in the city of Salalah where tourists and visitors gather to collect frankincense, silver and pottery products, Omani halwa sweets. The city abounds with restaurants serving traditional Omani foods.

Beyond urban areas, in Salalah Plain for example, the visitors and tourists get access to a wide range of agricultural products of

a tropical nature. These include coconuts, bananas, papayas and sugarcanes.

The visitors and tourists also find themselves in place to explore the Governorate of Dhofar's exotic creeks, natural reserves and rich animal and marine resources.

In backdrop of this exceptional weather, government institutions and private establishments continue to extend services to groups of tourists who throng the hotels and other facilities during this time of the year.

It is worth noting that the number of visitors to the Dhofar Governorate during Khareef monsoon season 2023 increased by 18.4 percent to about 962,000 who collectively spent a total of RO 103 million, according to the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSD). -ONA



The damp spell of the monsoon extends gradually in the governorate, from the Wilayat of Dhalkout in the west to the Wilayat of Mirbat in the east

Development projects seen gaining pace in Musandam

The governorate has allocated development programmes to the tune of OMR20 million during the current Five-Year Development Plan

KHASAB: Musandam Governorate currently witnesses development, construction and expansion of a number of infrastructure and tourism projects which would contribute to the increase of the number of tourists to the governorate from other countries as well as attraction of more local and foreign investments.

Sayyid Ibrahim bin Said Al-Busaidi, Governor of Musandam said that the governorate saw development works in the various fields including at the residential areas and centres of the cities.

There are also projects under construction of which some have nearly completed and others at the stage of consultancy studies, he added.

He said that the governorate has allocated development programmes to the tune of OMR20 million during the current Five-Year Development Plan.

He said that the completion percentage of Dibba Port Development Project stood at 75 per cent approximately with expected completion of structural works by first half of the next year.

Regarding Dibba-Lima-Khasab Road, he said that the work is



progressing rapidly in the initial road works which exceeded 55 kilometres in length.

He pointed out that this initial road is expected to facilitate and ensure smooth traffic between the wiyats of Musandam and to contribute to tourism movement in Musandam.

Regarding the new airport in Khasab, he said that the Civil Aviation Authority has awarded a



number of tenders including tenders related to the soil studies and consultancy studies of the design.

On Khasab Port, he said that the company assigned with the management and development of the port is currently carrying out

the management and investment of the facilities of the port and is conducting the feasibility studies.

There are many investment lands awarded to investors in the wilayats of Bakha, Madha and Dibba.

Speaking on the health sector, he said that the works at Khasab and Madha hospital are at the stage of internal preliminary works and are both expected to open and offer their services within the current five-year plan. — OMA

Transactions jump to more than 106,000 till May 2024

< FROM A1 The number of securities traded also increased to more than 3.1 billion securities until May 2024 compared to about 1.4 billion securities in the same period last year. The number of transactions executed jumped from 96,000 transactions to more than 106,000 transactions until the end of May 2024.

The MSX statistics further said that this growth comes in conjunction with the improved performance of the national economy and increased confidence of local and foreign institutions in government measures aimed at reducing public debt, increasing government spending on basic services, and launching a number of infrastructure projects that support local and foreign private sector investments.

The market value of public joint-stock companies listed on the stock exchange during the current year recorded gains of about OMR448.5 million, rising to OMR 9.416 billion at the end of May 2024 compared to OMR8.967 billion at the end of last year. The market value of public joint-stock companies represents about 38.5 percent of the total market value of securities listed in the stock market and rose to OMR24.478 billion by the end of May 2024, recording gains of more than OMR676 million over its level at the end of last year. The main index of the stock exchange recorded an increase of 331 points and closed at 4,845 points at the end of May 2024.

The MSX is expected to see further gains with the Oman Investment Authority's intention to offer several companies for public subscription during the current year. The IPOs of Abraaj Energy Services and OQ Gas Networks last year attracted more investors to the stock exchange and enhanced liquidity. - with inputs from OMA

OMSB MEDICAL SPECIALTY BOARD

OMSB implementing 31 major projects as part of its annual plan

TimesNews Service

MUSCAT: The Oman Medical Specialty Board (OMSB) is currently working on implementing 31 projects and initiatives within this year's annual plan.

This is in addition to several initiatives related to the outputs of the Human Resources for Health Laboratory in coordination with the Ministry of Health and many relevant authorities whose goals and projects are integrated with the Council.

The OMSB is an essential source for advancing medical professions and achieving a high level of competence for healthcare workers in the Sultanate of Oman to reach a healthier and happier society.

The Board is making persistent and continuous efforts to establish a solid base of medical education programs, intensive specialised training, and continuous and diligent follow-up, which ensures the provision of outputs based on science and with a spirit of creativity and innovation to keep pace with progress and rapid development in the field of medicine and treatment techniques.

The Council is interested in raising the quality of advanced medical training and education by providing all its human and technical needs and creating opportunities for accelerated work on several projects that can achieve the desired goal of graduating doctors with academic and training levels that keep pace with the outputs of developed countries.

The Omani medical cadres have proven their competence through their excellence and seriousness at the international level in more than one forum and achieving advanced positions in the quality of medical and scientific research provided outside the Sultanate of Oman.

To achieve the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, the OMSB continues to work on its five-year objectives (2021-2025), which are to establish and accredit national standards for medical training programmes and insti-



tutions, empower trainee doctors to contribute to finding innovative solutions to meet the challenges of the health system and develop an advanced medical education system characterised by governance and leadership development.

The Council works to ensure the competence of licensed health practitioners in the Sultanate of Oman, build partnerships with the private sector in providing and developing services related to medical education, and develop and provide educational and training content that enhances the use of modern technology and empowers trainee doctors with concepts and skills related to public health.

In this regard, Her Excellency Dr. Fatima bint Muhammad Al-Ajamiya, CEO of the Omani Council for Medical Specialties, confirmed to the Oman News Agency that the Council would continue to work on strategic projects emanating from its strategic objectives and linked to the objectives of the priority of health, the priority of the private sector, investment and international cooperation, and the priority of governance of the state's administrative apparatus, resources and projects in "Oman Vision 2040".

Her Excellency added that the Council has set its vision as an umbrella to advance the medical professions for distinguished health care. This will be achieved through its mission, which aims to develop health personnel by

qualifying specialised doctors and ensuring the competence of workers in the health sector for a healthier and happier society.

The strategic plan of OMSB is to work on five projects aimed at strengthening the fields of medical education and raising the levels of professional competence of health practitioners in the health sector in the Sultanate of Oman as work continues on the project to develop medical training and health innovation, which aims to adopt tools and innovation programs in developing medical education and training programmes, in addition to the National Center for Examinations project, which aims to provide professional classification exams for health practitioners, and exams for speciality and fellowship programs, in addition to two projects to align medical specialities with the needs of the health sector and develop the advanced medical education system that is being worked on in line with the variables of the general directions of the strategy.

The Sultanate of Oman coordinates with several entities, the most important of which are the Ministry of Health and the Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit. Finally, the digital transformation and procedures automation project is through which the OMSB seeks to facilitate business and smooth procedures and services provided to various beneficiaries.

Full story @ timesofoman.com/oman

NBO GLOBAL EQUITY FUND OPEN-ENDED INVESTMENT FUND



EXTENSION OF SUBSCRIPTION PERIOD

Subscription Closing Date 11th July 2024

Fund Objectives

The primary objective of the Fund is to generate returns from an actively managed portfolio comprised of equity securities listed and about to be listed on global stock exchanges including ADRs and GDRs and equity-oriented securities such as open-ended UCIT funds and ETFs investing in such listed securities.

Fund Structure

Open-ended fund investing in (i) listed and about to be listed global equity securities including ADRs and GDRs and (ii) funds such as UCIT funds and exchange traded funds (ETFs) that invest in such listed equity securities.

Initial Subscription Price

1.020 Rial Omani (including 20 Baisa as issue expenses)

Minimum Subscription for Initial Issue:

The minimum Initial Subscription shall be 2,000 Units per Subscriber and thereafter in multiples of 100 Units.

This advertisement is an extract of the summary of the prospectus of NBO Global Equity Fund ("Prospectus") approved by the Financial Services Authority of Oman ("FSA") vide its Administrative Decision No. KH/31/2024 dated 8 May 2024. NBO Global Equity Fund (the "Fund") is an open-ended investment fund established by National Bank of Oman SAOG ("NBO"), a bank registered in the Sultanate of Oman as a specialized bank and licensed as an Investment Fund Manager in accordance with the regulations of the FSA. Terms used but not defined in this advertisement shall have the meaning given to them in the Prospectus.

This advertisement summary should not be relied on for making an investment decision and is not intended to be a substitute for reading the whole Prospectus. Each investor should read the Prospectus and Articles of Association of the Fund in full before making their investment decision. This advertisement summary has been extracted from the unofficial translation of the Prospectus prepared in Arabic and approved by the FSA.

Investment Manager & Issue Manager 	Investment Advisor 	Legal Adviser 	Collecting Banks
--	------------------------	-------------------	----------------------------------



WORLD

PM Modi says India to start e-medical visa for Bangladesh nationals

India will also open a new consulate in Rangpur, Bangladesh to facilitate services for people in the north-west region of the country

NEW DELHI: India will start an e-medical visa facility for Bangladesh nationals coming to India for medical treatment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday after the meeting between the two delegations here in the national capital on Saturday.

India will also open a new consulate in Rangpur, Bangladesh to facilitate services for people in the north-west region of the country.

The two Prime Ministers addressed the media after meeting at Hyderabad House on Saturday.

PM Modi emphasised the two leaders have met several times in last one year, adding that this visit is special because PM Sheikh Hasina is India's first state guest in the third tenure of the NDA government.

Neighbourhood First policy

"In the last one year, we have met 10 times, but yesterday's meeting is special because PM Hasina is the first state guest of our third government. Bangladesh is crucial for our Neighbourhood First policy, Act East Policy, Vision SAGAR, and Indo-Pacific vision. We have



completed several developmental programmes together in the last year," PM Modi said at the press statement.

"India will start e-medical visas for Bangladesh nationals coming to India for medical treatment. India has decided to open a new Assistant High Commission in Rangpur to benefit the people in the northwest part of Bangladesh," he further said. Ahead of the T20 World Cup Super 8 clash between India and Bangladesh yesterday, PM Modi also gave best wishes to both teams.

"I also give my best wishes to both India and Bangladesh cricket teams for today's match," he said.

Prime Minister Modi further said that India and Bangladesh have started trading in Indian Rupees. He also highlighted the electricity export from Nepal to Bangladesh using the Indian grid.

He added the two countries have decided to start talks at the technical level for the renewal of

the Ganga River treaty. A technical team will also travel to Bangladesh to review the protection and management of the Teesta River in Bangladesh.

"The sixth rail link between India and Bangladesh has started between Jakhoda and Agartala has started. Cargo services have been started for our north-eastern states with the Khulna-Mongla Port... Trade in Indian Rupees has started between the two countries. The world's longest river cruise on the Ganges River between India and Bangladesh has been successfully completed," PM Modi said.

PM Modi further said that the two nations have developed a futuristic vision for our cooperation in new sectors. — ANI

Multiple MoUs, pacts inked

NEW DELHI: In a significant diplomatic engagement, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina oversaw the exchange of several Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and agreements aimed at enhancing cooperation across various sectors.

The ceremony took place at Hyderabad House in Delhi.

The agreements exchanged included a Shared Vision for India-Bangladesh Digital Partnership: Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh Masood Bin Momen and India's Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra facilitated the exchange of

documents, underscoring mutual commitments in digital collaboration.

A Shared Vision on the India-Bangladesh Green Partnership focused on environmental initiatives and sustainable development goals.

An MoU was exchanged on Maritime Cooperation and Blue Economy: Strengthening ties in maritime security, cooperation, and exploring opportunities in the blue economy sector. An MoU for Cooperation on Health and Medicine was renewed, reflecting ongoing collaboration in healthcare between the two nations. — ANI



Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box: 770,
Postal Code: 112



Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali
Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

Starliner's return to Earth delayed again

FLORIDA: NASA and Boeing have decided to indefinitely postpone the return of the Starliner spacecraft from the International Space Station (ISS) to Earth, NASA said in a statement on Friday.

The two-astronaut mission, known as Crew Flight Test (CFT), was set to return to Earth on June 26. It had been initially set to last about eight days but was later extended.

"We are taking our time and following our standard mission management team process," said Steve Stich, manager of NASA's Commercial Crew Programme.

The mission managers are assessing future return options following the station's two planned spacewalks on Monday, June 24, and Tuesday, July 2, according to NASA.

"We are letting the data drive our decision making relative to managing the small helium system leaks and thruster performance we observed during rendezvous and docking," Stich said, assuring that the Starliner is performing well in orbit while docked to the space station.

According to NASA's statement, the crew "is not pressed for time to leave the station since there are plenty of supplies in orbit, and the station's schedule is relatively open through mid-



August."

This is the first time the Boeing spacecraft was launched with a crew. The launch with US astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams was a final step for the Starliner to obtain routine flight certification from NASA.

Before the crewed test, the spacecraft had been sent to space twice since 2019.

However, the crewed test has seen five failures of its 28 maneuvering thrusters, and five leaks of helium gas among other problems, raising questions about the return date of Starliner's astronauts to home.

Once Starliner gets approval for routine flights, it will become the second US spacecraft capable of carrying astronauts to and from the ISS. Currently, SpaceX's Crew Dragon is NASA's only space capsule that conducts regular rides with crew to the ISS. — DW

PROPOSED FINANCE BILL

Gen-Z Kenyans take over streets to protest tax hike

NAIROBI: A proposed finance bill sparked mass protests in the streets of Nairobi and across other cities in Kenya this week.

Demonstrators, many of them young people, protested in front of Kenya's Parliament building on Thursday morning for the second time this week. They claimed the bill's tax hikes and levies would make the country's cost-of-living crisis worse. Police fired tear gas into the crowd, and hundreds were arrested.

Gen Z takes to the streets

Bold young protesters from what is often referred to as Generation Z, or Gen Z — the term generally used to describe people born during the late 1990s and early 2000s — expressed their anger at how the government in Kenya has been offloading its problems onto citizens. "We are already paying taxes and they are not doing much with it — it gets stolen. So how can we trust them with more?" Makena Kahuha, an actor and content creator, told DW.

Another protestor, Pamela Muriuki, is also disappointed: "They prefer allegiance to the government instead of the voters who voted them in," she says.

In contrast to previous protests led by opposition party members, demonstrations were driven by young citizens who chanted anti-government slogans and waved placards disparaging the bill.

Government bows under pressure

These demonstrations were different from other mass protests seen previously in Kenya. This time, young protesters filmed clashes with police officers with their smartphones, publishing them online. The protests gained momentum on social media under the hashtag #OccupyParliament.

And the protests were a resounding success. By Thursday afternoon, the government announced it would scrap many of the bill's most contentious provisions, including taxes on bread



purchases and car ownership.

"The finance bill has been amended to remove the proposed 16% levy on bread, transportation of sugar, financial services, foreign exchange transactions, as well as the 2.5% motor vehicle tax," the presidency wrote in a statement.

Additionally, there will be no increase in mobile money transfer fees, according to the statement.

The cash-strapped government had previously defended the tax hikes as necessary in order to cut reliance on external borrowing. The increases were projected to raise some 346.7 billion shillings (\$2.7 billion), the equivalent of 1.9% of the country's GDP.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the country has struggled with a cost-of-living crisis. Critics warned the situation would only worsen under the levies laid out in a bill.

The International Monetary Fund urged the government to increase revenues in its 2024/2025 budget to reduce borrowing.

More accountability

According to Wanjiru Gikonyo, national coordinator of the Institute for Social Accountability, a civil society initiative working towards good governance, the demonstrations were peaceful and young people had mobilized without the help of politicians, unlike in the past.

"There were very creative voices. Unfortunately the police used force on young people demonstrating on the most significant piece of legislation for any citizen

— the tax provisions," she told DW.

Gikonyo spoke of the significance of such peaceful protests. "It taught us that the violent protests really are instigated in the political arena," she stressed. "But the violence in the past has been part of the mobilization strategy, and underlying that is a culture of political mobilisation and violence that underpins politics."

Similarly, Zaha Indimuli, executive director of the Amali Organization, which supports empowering youth and promoting national development, said the government must be held accountable if they use force on peaceful protesters.

"Why would you throw teargas at the people giving you feedback? It is mediocre and it also shows a lot of immaturity inside the government," she told DW.

"They should sit down with the people who actually put them there and fix the problems at home, not travel the world," she said, referring to President William Ruto.

Wrong economic path

Ruto is trying to position himself in the region and even globally, Gikonyo said. Therefore, such mass protests would not help his image.

Gikonyo, like others, points out the history behind the financial crisis, namely "very irresponsible borrowing already been done by previous governments," which continued under the leadership of President Ruto. — DW

30% TO 70% DISCOUNT خصومات

On Wide Range of Products تخفيضات على مجموعة واسعة من المنتجات

Validity: May 13th to June 30th
من تاريخ ١٣ مايو وحتى ٣٠ يونيو ٢٠٢٤

@casabella.oman @casabella_oman @casabella.oman

Israeli attacks stop 39,000 students from taking school exams in Gaza

The ongoing Israeli offensive in Gaza has severely impacted the education sector, with devastating consequences for thousands of students and their families

RAMALLAH: On a day that should have marked a significant milestone for around 89,000 Tawjihi high school students in Palestine, only 56 percent of them were able to sit for their final exams. The ongoing Israeli offensive on Gaza, now in its 260th day, has severely impacted the education sector, with devastating consequences



quences for thousands of students and their families. The relentless Israeli war has prevented 39,000 students from taking their Tawjihi exams. Many have been directly affected by the aggression, either losing their lives or having their education disrupted due to the destruction of schools and other educational infrastructure. The Palestinian Ministry of Education and Higher Education reports that 430 high school students in Gaza and 20 in the West Bank have been killed by Israeli troops since the academic year began in August. Statistics from the Ministry paint a grim picture: at least 8,000 school-aged children and 350 teachers have been killed in Gaza. Additionally, there are over 12,500 injured students, 2,500 of whom have sustained disabilities. These numbers highlight the profound human cost of the war and its impact on the education system. Sadiq Khadour, the Assistant Undersecretary for Student Affairs and Ministry spokesperson, detailed the extensive damage to Gaza's educational infrastructure. Of the 307 government school buildings, he said, 286 have been damaged to varying degrees, with dozens completely destroyed. Non-official sources indicate that the Israeli forces have entirely destroyed approximately 110 schools and a university, and partially damaged 321 others. Moreover, 150 out of 228 schools operated by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)

have been targeted, with many serving as shelters for displaced families. Khadour emphasized that these statistics, alarming as they are, represent only quantifiable damage. The qualitative impact, such as the educational loss from students being unable to attend school, is harder to measure but equally devastating. The destruction extends beyond buildings to include vital communication and electrical networks, making the prospect of shifting to online education unfeasible in the near future. In response to this crisis, the Ministry of Education has committed to supporting Gaza's high school students by planning a special exam session once conditions permit and the minimum required curriculum can be taught. The Ministry has devised comprehensive plans to salvage the academic year, pending a cessation of hostilities. These plans involve conducting a thorough assessment of the damage to educational institutions and identifying locations where temporary classrooms can be established. Preliminary estimates suggest that Gaza needs at least 4,500 additional classrooms, operating in double shifts to accommodate all students. A key component of the recovery strategy is addressing the educational deficit through intensive learning modules, similar to those implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan also includes psychological and social interventions to help students recover from the trauma they have endured. Currently, 630,000 students in Gaza are deprived of their right to education, including those in government, UNRWA, and private schools, as well as 88,000 university students and 80,000 kindergarten-aged children. This widespread disruption of education prompted 19 UN experts and rapporteurs to condemn the destruction as a deliberate attempt to dismantle the Palestinian education system, referring to it as "educational genocide." In a joint statement, these experts highlighted that these attacks are not isolated incidents but part of a systematic pattern of violence aimed at undermining the foundations of Palestinian society. They poignantly remarked, "When schools are destroyed, hopes and dreams are destroyed as well." — Wafa

ARKANSAS STATE POLICE

Two people killed in US

ARKANSAS: Two people were killed and eight others were injured in a mass shooting outside a grocery store in Fordyce, Arkansas, according to state police. One law enforcement officer was among those injured and suffered non-life threatening injuries, according to the police. Arkansas State Police responded to the Mad Butcher grocery store at 11:30am. Police said that the shooter was critically injured and taken into custody, CBS News reported. Arkansas Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders said that she has been briefed regarding the shooting in Fordyce and is in constant touch with police at the site of the incident. — ANI

MV DALI CARGO SHIP

Eight Dali ship crew leave for India, some still on board

BALTIMORE: Three months after the MV Dali cargo ship lost power and crashed into a bridge in Baltimore, eight crew members have left for India with only a handful of crew on board. There were 20 Indians and one Sri Lankan on the ship since March 26, when the 984-foot ship lost propulsion, veered off course and destroyed the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore. **Six construction workers** Six construction workers who were on the bridge were killed in the incident, which remains the focus of two investigations by the FBI and the National Transportation Safety Board. On Wednesday, a motion was filed by the city of Baltimore asking to keep the crew members in the country. But, later on Thursday, after a court hearing, a judge approved the deal that would allow eight Indians to fly home. The eight eligible crewmembers do not include any officers. They include a cook, a fitter, an oiler and several seamen. The eight members who will arrive in India shortly were allowed to leave the United States after a deal that ensured that they would be able to conduct lawsuit-related interviews. The remaining crewmembers, including all of the ship's officers, will be required to stay in the United States until litigation involving the crash is finished, which could take more than a year. The ship was tentatively scheduled to leave for Norfolk, Virginia, according to a person familiar with the developments. **13 crew members** The 13 crew members, mostly Indians, who will stay indefinitely in the US and are moved to service apartments in Baltimore, a source informed ANI. The crew of four members will stay on board for the journey and will return to the service apartments in some time. While none of the crew members have been charged in connection with the disaster, investigations are underway to determine who might be responsible. Baltimore mayor has announced a legal action to "hold the wrongdoers responsible." In March, the shipping vessel named the Dali lost power on its way out of Baltimore Harbour to Sri Lanka and slammed into the Francis Scott Key Bridge, causing it to collapse. On April 5, US President Joe Biden visited the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore and vowed to "move heaven and Earth" to rebuild the structure. — ANI



DEFENCE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Sweden approves US defence cooperation deal

STOCKHOLM: For two centuries, Sweden maintained a policy of military non-alignment, but it is now taking quick steps to move away from this historical position. In March, they became the newest member of NATO, and in December, they signed the Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) with the United States. On Tuesday, this agreement got the final green light from the Swedish parliament, the Riksdag. Although US forces have participated in exercises on Swedish territory before, the agreement will now give US armed forces access to 17 Swedish military bases and training grounds across the country. In addition, the US will have the right to deploy units, store military equipment, and carry out defence exercises in Sweden. Much like in other European countries where US forces are deployed, US military personnel in Sweden may move freely and are obligated to obey US law. **Organising Baltic defence** Swedish Defence Minister Pal Jonson has said with the DCA, Sweden "can receive early, swift and effective military support from the United States in a deteriorating security situation." "The agreement acts as a deterrent, and is stabilizing. It reduces the risk of war breaking out and makes Sweden safer," he added. Jacob Westberg from the Swedish Defence University told DW that this agreement did not only help Sweden, but provided the entire Baltic Sea region with military support. For example, it opened up a new route to move supplies to the Baltic Sea region through Finland and Sweden, without NATO having to rely on land routes near the Polish-Lithuanian border which Russia



could easily cut off. "Sweden could function as this sort of strategic hub. A staging area from which military resources could be transferred further east, and north as well," he said. The expert in war studies added that Sweden must be considered as a strategic asset in the wider context of NATO's regional defense planning. "It increases the cost and risk for Russia to attack any state in the region," Westberg concluded. **Nuclear controversy** In Sweden's parliament, the defence agreement received the support of a large majority: 266 MPs voted in favor, 37 against, and 46 were absent. The main opponents were the Left and Green parties, who criticized the agreement for potentially leaving the door open for US nuclear weapons to be stored on Swedish territory, thereby further escalating tensions in the region. These parties were also opposed to



Sweden joining NATO in the first place. Last month, Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson indicated that he was open to hosting nuclear arms in wartime, despite a Swedish parliamentary ban on nuclear weapons during peacetime. "In a war situation it's a completely different matter, [it] would depend entirely on what would happen," Kristersson told local media. "In the absolute worst-case scenario, the democratic countries in our part of the world must ultimately be able to defend themselves." Those opposed to the DCA argued that similar US agreements with other Nordic countries like Finland, Norway, and Denmark contained clauses that prohibited the hosting of nuclear weapons on their territory. However, Westberg explained, these clauses were added at a time when Denmark and Norway — founding members of NATO — were under the very real impression that a nuclear conflict could erupt at any moment. Finland at the time was afraid that the Soviet Union would be tempted to move missiles into their country as they had a cooperation pact with the Soviets. Now, according to Westberg, the possibility of the US bringing nuclear weapons to Sweden seemed extremely unlikely. "It is very difficult to see why and how the US should have any interest in stationing nuclear weapons in Sweden in peacetime and in any case, they will have to do this in agreement with the Swedish government," the expert said. **Rocky road to NATO** Sweden and neighbouring Finland are the latest countries to join NATO, after jointly applying for membership shortly after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. NATO membership was intended to increase the sense of security in the region against potential Russian aggression. It has also had the effect of expanding NATO-aligned territory to most of the coast of the Baltic Sea. Russia still has two points of access to the sea. But Sweden's road to NATO membership was rocky. Hungary and Türkiye dragged their heels and sought to block Sweden's bid for accession to the alliance, citing Swedish "hostile" attitudes. After long negotiations and bargaining with Türkiye and Hungary, Sweden was free to join NATO in March, a year later than their Finnish counterparts. Sweden is expected to fulfill NATO's minimal 2% of GDP defence spending target this year, with the Scandinavian country spending 2.14% of their GDP or 12.5 billion euros (13.4 billion dollars) on defence this year according to NATO statistics. — DW



Norris edges past Verstappen to clinch Spanish GP pole

McLaren driver takes his first pole of the year in a gripping qualifying session in Barcelona

BARCELONA: McLaren's Lando Norris edged past Max Verstappen's Red Bull to pole position at the Spanish Grand Prix in a gripping qualifying session at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya on Saturday. Verstappen had appeared out of reach when he improved his own time, which was already fastest, by more than 0.2 seconds on his final run. But Norris crossed the line a few seconds later to beat Verstappen and take his first pole of the year. And Lewis Hamilton out-qualified team-mate George Russell for only the second time this season as the Mercedes drivers took third and fourth. Their performance underlined Mercedes' re-emergence as con-



tenders close to the front after a series of car developments as they beat the Ferrari drivers Charles Leclerc and Carlos Sainz to fifth and sixth place, despite an upgrade on the Italian cars. Norris, for whom this was a second career pole and his first for three years, said: "It was pretty much a perfect lap. You know when you're on a good lap and you're getting excited. Close still but super happy. I would say my best pole

position. I've not had many but I'd say the best. "We have been quick since Miami but missed out on pole by not doing a perfect lap and today we did a perfect lap." Verstappen said: "The whole weekend we have been trying to find a connected balance, I was quite happy in qualifying. In Q3 I got a nice little tow from Checo (Perez) in Turn One to extract everything we could but unfortunate-

ly it was just not enough. But all in all we can be very happy with this." Hamilton had left the last race in Canada saying he had to "start driving with my head" to get better results. He had not out-qualified Russell in a qualifying session for a grand prix since the Japanese race back in April, and in recent races had even expressed doubts whether he would be able to do so again. But he found his form again in



Spain and edged Russell out by just 0.002secs as they completed their final laps one after the other. Hamilton said: "I'm really happy. It has been quite a difficult year. Huge amount of work from everyone back at the factory and finally we are seeing those incremental steps. I didn't expect us to be fighting for pole but we're getting close." Alpine's Pierre Gasly impressed with eighth, ahead of another dis-

appointing performance from Sergio Perez in the second Red Bull in eighth. The Mexican will start 11th as a result of a three-place grid penalty for driving a damaged car at the last race in Canada. Gasly's team-mate Esteban Ocon was ninth ahead of the second McLaren of Oscar Piastri, who made mistakes on both his laps and failed to set a time in the final qualifying session. - Agencies

ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP

Hope and Chase help Windies hammer USA for NRR boost



BRIDGETOWN: Strong performances from Roston Chase and Shai Hope helped the West Indies to an easy nine-wicket victory against the USA in Barbados on Friday. With the win, the co-hosts have stayed in the race for a semi-final berth. Roston Chase (3/19) and Andre Russell (3/31) were in good touch with the ball as the USA were dismissed for just 128 and an unbeaten 82* from Shai Hope ensured the victory target was achieved within 11 overs at Kensington Oval. The triumph was the West Indies first of the Super Eights phase of the tournament and leaves them in contention for a place in the final four should they be able to defeat South Africa in their last game of the stage. It leaves USA without a win from two Super Eight contests and means the tournament co-hosts will need everything to go their way in their match against England on Sunday if they are to sneak into the semi-final spots. USA's innings never reached

great heights after they were sent into bat first by West Indies captain Rovman Powell. Andries Gous top-scored for the USA with 29, while Nitish Kumar (20), Milind Kumar (19) and Shadley van Schalkwyk (18) also chimed in as the West Indies took wickets at regular intervals to stay in control of the contest. Hope was in devastating touch with the bat as he cleared the rope on eight occasions to help guide West Indies home and give them a valuable boost to their net run rate ahead of a cut-throat clash with South Africa on Sunday. Hope crunched an unbeaten 82 off 39 balls, smashing eight sixes along the way as Nicholas Pooran helped him finish the game off with 55 balls and nine wickets to spare. By the end, the contest looked like the first real mismatch USA have been on the wrong side of as they ran out of ideas bowling to Hope, who until now had only played one match all tournament. He would reach his half-century in just 26 balls - the fastest in T20 World Cup history for West



Indies - before only speeding up after Jonathan Charles holed out. Pooran and Hope unleashed fire and fury towards the end as the game hurtled to an early finish, plundering the last 53 runs in just 14 deliveries. The game was set up, though, by a disciplined bowling performance led by the wily old hand of Chase. Not by any means West Indies' most glamorous spinner, Chase didn't even get to bat against England in the previous game. He showed his all-round value with a statement performance, though, ripping through the USA's middle order and breaking the back of the innings. Akeal Hosein had played his customary role upfront, squeezing USA in the powerplay, while Russell's three wickets helped the hosts continue to shackle USA whenever they tried to get a partnership going. The extra bounce Alzarri Joseph generated to dismiss Andries Gous just as he was beginning to whirl into full gear ended up being the sliding doors moment for USA, who, in truth, were never close to competitive

from that moment on. West Indies, meanwhile, are back with a bang. It seems a long time ago, but for a short while in the second half of the powerplay in the first innings, it looked as if Gous - now the second-highest scorer of this tournament - had turned the tide on West Indies. Halfway through, it was West Indies' powerplay, having conceded just 13 in the first three overs. But Gous, who nearly took USA home against South Africa with an unbeaten 80 off 47, stormed to a flier once more, punishing the length deliveries of Joseph to help plunder 35 off the final three of the powerplay. It helped USA put on 48 in the first six - their second-highest powerplay score at this World Cup. USA needed Gous to press on as he did in the previous game. So when he holed out off Joseph after a bright 16-ball 29, trouble brewed for the co-hosts. West Indies did not allow USA to post a big score and then take the game deep; they were chasing net run rate as well as points in Barbados and they did in style. - Agencies

ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP

Maharaj: SA have found a way to win 'small moments'

ST LUCIA: Experienced left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj believes his side have won the "small moments" in crunch games, which they'd not done well in previous World Cups, which is helping them "build character". "If you look at previous World Cups, the small moments, we haven't really won," he said. "It's good to see that all the games have come really close and we've found a way, so it's building the character within the team. And it prepares us for certain opportunities that we could get and cross over the line in those small moments, [these] are things that we've never done before. So, it's good to see us getting into that."



Four out of six games South Africa have played so far at the T20 World Cup have been close finishes. A last-ball win against Nepal in Kingstown ensured they made a clean sweep of the group stage. While they won comfortably against USA in the first Super Eight game, the match on Friday against England came down to the final over. Maharaj took two wickets in the game, dismissing Jonny Bairstow and Jos Buttler, to take his wicket tally to eight in the tournament. Maharaj added that South Africa have tried their best to put the "hurt" from the ODI World Cup 2023 in India, where they were knocked out by Australia in the semi-finals, behind. "This team believes that we can be really great as a unit," he said. "Obviously, with the last World Cup, bowling out in the semi-finals, it's both the character and there's a lot of hurt. So, we just take it one game at a time and focus on trying to get the results to go our way and not looking at the negatives, just trying to highlight the positives as much as possible."

South Africa will next face West Indies on Sunday evening in North Sound, Antigua. The match will also see a battle of the sides' left-arm spinners: Maharaj and Tabraiz Shamsi for South Africa versus West Indies' Akeal Hosein and Gudakesh Motie. Hosein and Motie have been West Indies' best bowlers at the tournament so far, the former having picked nine wickets and the latter eight in six matches. "It's always a battle of the spinners," Maharaj said. "I'm just going about my business. They've bowled exceptionally well in the tournament. I've watched quite a few spells of them, so obviously they're quite a dominant force as well. They [West Indies] have got a very strong batting line-up, but [I will] just try to stick true to my processes and my principles. "It's more a case of focusing on each and every game, not getting too ahead of ourselves. We've been very focused on our processes and trying to win each and every game and letting the rest take care of itself." (With inputs from ESPNcricinfo)

BILATERAL SERIES

SA announce T20I series at home against India

JOHANNESBURG: India will travel to South Africa for a four-match T20I series to be played in November later this year. Cricket South Africa (CSA) and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) officially announced the fixtures for India's tour of South Africa in November 2024, which will feature four T20I matches. India and South Africa have engaged in thrilling bilateral T20I series in recent years, with three of the last five series ending in draws and India clinching victory in the other two.

South Africa's last series win against India dates way back to 2015. However, beyond bilateral series, the Proteas triumphed over the Men in Blue in their latest encounter at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022. Sharing his excitement towards the series, Lawson Naidoo, CSA chairperson, said, "I would like to thank the BCCI for their continued support of South Africa's cricket, and world cricket in general. "Any tour by the Indian cricket team to our shores is filled with amazing camaraderie and

exciting cricket, and I know our fans will be eagerly awaiting this series which will showcase the exceptional talent from both teams." Jay Shah, secretary of the BCCI, emphasised India's strong cricketing relationship with South Africa. "India and South Africa have always shared a deep and strong bond, one that both nations take great pride in. "The Indian cricket team has consistently received immense appreciation and love from South African fans, and this sentiment

is equally strong among Indian fans towards the South African side. "I am confident that the upcoming series will once again highlight the on-field cricketing excellence and deliver enthralling, high-intensity contests," he stated. **Fixtures:** First T20I: 8 November, Durban. Second T20I: 10 November, Gqeberha. Third T20I: 13 November, Centurion. Fourth T20I: 15 November, Johannesburg. - Agencies



\$70MN TO SUPPORT FAO

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) has helped 28 countries to unlock \$70 million in financing from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to address urban sustainability, groundwater management, biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation. -WAM

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



AI EMERGES AS PIVOTAL FORCE

Artificial intelligence (AI) emerges as a pivotal force set to revolutionise the global banking sector, potentially boosting profits by \$170 billion or 9 per cent by 2028, according to a report by CITI.

Private deposits with commercial banks in Oman reach over OMR16bn

The monthly statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) stated that the total value of these deposits was represented by term deposits amounting to OMR5.43 billion, savings deposits amounting to OMR5.44 billion while the value of demand deposits amounted to OMR4.84 billion



MUSCAT: The total value of private deposits with commercial banks in the Sultanate of Oman recorded an increase of 9.7 percent to reach OMR16.49 billion by the end of March 2024 compared to OMR14.62 billion during the period of 2023. The monthly statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of

Oman (CBO) stated that the total value of these deposits was represented by term deposits amounting to OMR5.43 billion, savings deposits amounting to OMR5.44 billion while the value of demand deposits amounted to OMR4.84 billion. The CBO bulletin further stated that the total value of deposits represented OMR14.42

billion and OMR2.6 billion in foreign currencies. As for the banking indicators of Omani commercial banks in percentage terms at the end of March 2024, the bulletin stated that the ratio of total cash and clearing to deposits in Omani rials reached 6.7 percent, the ratio of total cash and clearing to total deposits reached

5.5 percent while the ratio of total loans to deposits reached 100.2 percent. The ratio of deposits in foreign currency to total deposits was 17.2 percent, the ratio of foreign assets to total loans was 11.6 percent, the ratio of foreign assets to total assets was 13.2 percent and the ratio of foreign liabilities to total liabilities reached 10.3 percent.

The ratio of private demand deposits to the total private deposits rose to 30.7 percent, the ratio of capital and reserves to the total deposits reached 22.3 percent, while the ratio of allocations and retained interest to the total credit amounted to about 5.9 percent. -ONA

STATISTICS

Oman's residential real estate price index drops by 2.9% in first quarter



MUSCAT: Residential land prices in Oman led the general index of real estate price in the Sultanate of Oman to record a decline of 2.6 percent in the first quarter of 2024, according to statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI). The residential land price index decreased by 0.9 percent, apartment price index fell by 17.3 percent, villa price index increased by 0.8 per-

cent while the price index for other homes decreased by 4.3 percent. The general residential real estate price index recorded a decrease of 2.9 percent in the first quarter of 2024 compared to the fourth quarter of 2023, where the residential land price index recorded a decrease of 0.8 percent. The number for residential apartments decreased by 14.8 percent, villas by 2.1 percent, and other

homes by 11.3 percent, the NCSI data reveals. At the governorate level, the residential land value index decreased in most of the governorates of the Sultanate of Oman in the first quarter of 2024 compared to the same quarter in 2023. The decrease in Muscat Governorate amounted to 5.5 percent, Dhofar Governorate by 5.1 percent, and Musandam Governorate by 15.7 percent.

The index also decreased in Al Buraïmi Governorate by 5.4 percent, South Al Batinah by 0.4, Al Sharqiyah South Governorate by 2.4 percent and Al Dhahirah Governorate by 8.3 percent. While the index increased in the Al Dakhiliyah Governorate by 7.5 percent, North Al Batinah Governorate by 11.2 percent, North Al Sharqiyah Governorate by 1.4 percent and 8.1 percent in the Al Wusta Governorate. -ONA

INVESTMENT CONTRACT

Samail Industrial City localises projects worth OMR13 million

SAMAIL: Samail Industrial City, affiliated with the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), signed an investment contract with Global Health Ambassadors Company to localise a project in the sector of manufacturing pharmaceutical preparations for human use.

Medical investment

The project is being built on a plot of land in the section designated for medical investments in the industrial city, with a total area exceeding 10,000 square metres, with an investment volume exceeding OMR13 million. It is noteworthy that Madayn designed the Samail Industrial City according to the latest international standards, as it was divided into different industrial sectors. These include the food indus-



try sector, iron, aluminium and furniture industry sector, plastics and petrochemicals industry sector, marble industry sector, ware-

houses and warehousing sector, support services sector and the building materials industry. After the successful imple-

mentation of this experiment, Madayn is working to expand this initiative in all of its new industrial cities. -ONA

BRIEFS

First net-zero academy to train workers in EU solar photovoltaic value chain

BRUSSELS: The European Commission launched the European Solar Academy, the first in a series of EU Academies to be set up under the Net-Zero Industry Act (NZIA) to have in place the necessary skills along the net-zero technologies value chains. The role of NZIA academies is to develop learning content and programmes together with the industry, to ensure sufficient skills and workforce in the value chain. It is estimated that in the solar photovoltaic (PV) manufacturing sector alone, some 66,000 skilled workers will be needed by 2030 for the EU to meet its ambitious renewable energy targets while ensuring industrial competitiveness. The Solar Academy aims to train 100,000 workers in the solar photovoltaic value chain over the next three years to address the current labour and skills gap in the sector. Following the successful model of the European Battery Academy, launched in 2022 for the battery value chain, the Solar Academy will design learning content, together with the industry and relevant parties in the solar PV value chain. The Solar Academy will also develop learning credentials, which will certify the skills that people have acquired in its training courses, thus also boosting the mobility of the workforce across the Single Market. The deployment of the programmes is done via local partners. These can be Vocational and Educational Training (VET) providers, businesses, universities or other education and training providers with whom the Academy signs a contract to deliver its programmes. The Commission is supporting the launch of the European Solar Academy with €9 million from the Single Market Programme. The project will be implemented by the European Institute for Innovation and Technology (EIT) via its Knowledge and Innovation Community, EIT Innoenergy. This Academy is the latest Commission initiative supporting the EU's efforts to reach its ambitious targets under the European Green Deal and the REPowerEU Plan while ensuring that the industry is resilient and competitive on the global stage. -WAM

Developing economies of Asia home to 60% of world's megaprojects

GENEVA: The World Investment Report 2024, published today by the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), spotlights a significant increase in greenfield foreign direct investment (FDI) to developing economies in Asia. In 2023, these economies experienced a 44 per cent rise in the overall value of greenfield investment announcements and a 22 per cent increase in the number of such announcements, where companies establish or expand their operations overseas. More broadly, while foreign investment flows to developing Asia receded in 2023, they remained high at \$621 billion. The continent, led by East and Southeast Asia, continued to be the world's largest recipient of FDI, accounting for nearly half of global inflows. Cross-border mergers and acquisitions (M&A), which usually constitute 10 per cent to 15 per cent of foreign investments in developing Asia, declined by almost \$30 billion to \$57 billion in 2023. This decline accounted for about half of the total drop in FDI inflows to the region. China and its Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) continue to be the largest investors in the region by total FDI stock, followed by the United States, Japan, and Singapore. Across developing Asia, investment in sectors linked to the Sustainable Development Goals rose modestly. The number of announced greenfield projects in these sectors grew by 30% to 1,225 projects with a 54 per cent rise in value, notably in renewable energy, transport, and telecommunication. By contrast, the number of international projects finance deals dipped by 17 per cent, partly offsetting gains in greenfield FDI for sustainable development. -WAM

MARKET

AI set to revolutionise global banking, boost profits by \$170 billion by 2028

Termed as the General-Purpose Technology (GPT) of the 2020s-2030s, AI's transformative impact on finance is poised to reshape operations, enhance security measures, and redefine intellectual property landscapes worldwide

NEW DELHI: Artificial intelligence (AI) emerges as a pivotal force set to revolutionise the global banking sector, potentially boosting profits by \$170 billion or 9 per cent by 2028, according to a report by CITI.

Termed as the General-Purpose



REPORT: One of the most compelling aspects highlighted in the report is AI's role in combating financial fraud. - Photo used for illustrative purpose only

Technology (GPT) of the 2020s-2030s, AI's transformative impact on finance is poised to reshape operations, enhance security measures, and redefine intellectual property landscapes worldwide.

One of the most compelling aspects highlighted in the report is AI's role in combating financial

fraud. AI-generated insights hold the key to preventing real-time payment scams, such as the pervasive Authorized Push Payment (APP) fraud.

In the UK alone, APP fraud accounts for 40 per cent of banking fraud losses, with projected costs soaring to USD 5.25 billion across

the US, UK, and India by 2026 if unchecked. While countries like the European Union, China, and Singapore have emerged as early adopters of AI regulation in finance, the United States has taken a cautious approach, lagging behind in regulatory initiatives.

India, on the other hand, has

shown a fluctuating stance on AI governance. Initially adopting a non-regulatory position in early 2023, India swiftly pivoted to considering comprehensive AI laws by mid-2024, albeit amid evolving directives and advisories. Regarding economic impact, AI promises substantial gains in developer pro-

ductivity, potentially boosting efficiency by 10-50 per cent and translating into annual savings ranging from \$2 to \$16 billion in the US banking sector alone.

This efficiency gain is underpinned by advancements in AI-driven software solutions, which optimise tasks traditionally handled by technology staff.

The report underscores the broader implications of AI as a GPT, likening its potential to the industrial revolution's steam engine and the internet age's transformative power.

By commoditizing human intelligence through enhanced analytical capabilities, decision-making processes, and content creation, AI stands poised to usher in a new era of economic growth while simultaneously disrupting existing norms and industries.

As financial institutions worldwide navigate the AI revolution, adapting to technological advancements and regulatory landscapes will prove pivotal in harnessing AI's full potential while safeguarding against potential pitfalls.

With AI poised to redefine finance and money in the coming decade, stakeholders across sectors are called upon to engage proactively in shaping its ethical, legal, and economic implications for a more inclusive and sustainable future. -ANI

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

EU ministers formally endorse EIB Group Strategic Roadmap

BRUSSELS: Ministers of the European Union (EU), meeting as the European Investment Bank (EIB) Board of Governors, formally endorsed the EIB Group Strategic Roadmap laying out eight key priorities for the EU financing arm.

The eight priorities include climate action, digitalisation and

innovation, security and defence, cohesion, agriculture and bioeconomy, social infrastructure, impact investments outside the EU and contributing to reinforce Europe's capital markets.

Governors also initiated the process to change the EIB statute to enable the EIB Group to use its

full potential to support the European economy, while preserving the bank's stellar credit rating, leverage and capital position.

The endorsed Roadmap includes the following main elements: Launch of a targeted "Strategic Tech-EU" investment programme to accelerate digitalisation and in-

novation in strategic technologies, such as artificial intelligence, microchips, life sciences and quantum computing. This initiative will cover the entire value chain, including critical raw materials, thus reinforcing Europe's strategic autonomy and fostering home-grown innovation.

Following the mandate of the Eurogroup, the EIB will expand the successful European Tech Champions Initiative to attract private capital to finance the scaling up of innovative start-ups. It will also replicate the model of standardised financial instruments in other areas to crowd in

private investment in sectors like energy efficiency for small- and medium-sized enterprises and building retrofitting. These initiatives will contribute to advance the EU's capital markets union. The EIB will reinforce its investments and develop new financial instruments. -WAM

EXPERTS IN

All Kinds of home automation/Integration like Audiovisual, Lighting Control System, CCTV/ Access Control along with product consultation & expert advise on the above being taken care. Also all kinds of Electrical installation & maintenance taken care with at most professionalism.

Contact: 93387263, 92839679





البعد الرابع الجديد ش.م.م

THE NEW 4th DIMENSION LLC

Email: newfourthdimension@gmail.com

'REGULATORY UNCERTAINTIES'

Apple delays release of new AI features in Europe

NEW YORK: Apple said Friday it would delay the rollout of its recently announced AI features in Europe because of "regulatory uncertainties."

An Apple spokesperson cited for the delay concerns over the European Union's Digital Markets Act (DMA), the bloc's landmark legislation aimed at curbing the power of big tech.

"We do not believe we will be able to roll out these features to our EU users this year," the spokesperson said.

Earlier this month, the company unveiled "Apple Intelligence," its suite of AI features for its coveted devices.

The announcement came as an apparent attempt by Apple to reassure its users that it is not falling behind in the AI frenzy. It included a partnership with OpenAI to make ChatGPT available to iPhone users.

Why is Apple delaying AI rollout in Europe?

According to Apple, the AI capabilities were put on hold over concern "that the interoperability requirements of the DMA could force us to compromise the integrity of our



products in ways that risk user privacy and data security."

"We are committed to collaborating with the European Commission in an attempt to find a solution that would enable us to deliver these features to our EU customers without compromising their safety," the company added.

Apple is also delaying the release of its iPhone Mirroring and SharePlay Screen Sharing enhancements in Europe.

Apple Intelligence, which runs only on the company's in-house technology, will enable users to create their own emojis based on a description in everyday language, or to generate brief summaries of emails in the mailbox.

What is the DMA?

In an effort to establish fair competition in Europe, the EU's Digital Markets Act sets out a list of dos and don'ts for designated internet gatekeepers, including Apple. The DMA enables the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, to investigate, fine and impose structural remedies on non-compliant gatekeepers.

Fines can reach up to 10 per cent of global annual turnover, with repeat offenders facing fines of up to 20 percent.

The EU's competition chief, Margrethe Vestager, warned on Tuesday that Apple was failing to comply with the DMA as the bloc conducts an investigation into Apple's business practices. -DW

REGULATIONS

China to bring new rules for fair competition reviews from August 1

BEIJING: China will bring regulations for fair competition reviews into force from August 1 to help ensure a level playing field for all market players and build a unified domestic market free from regional protectionist practices, according to the country's top market watchdog.

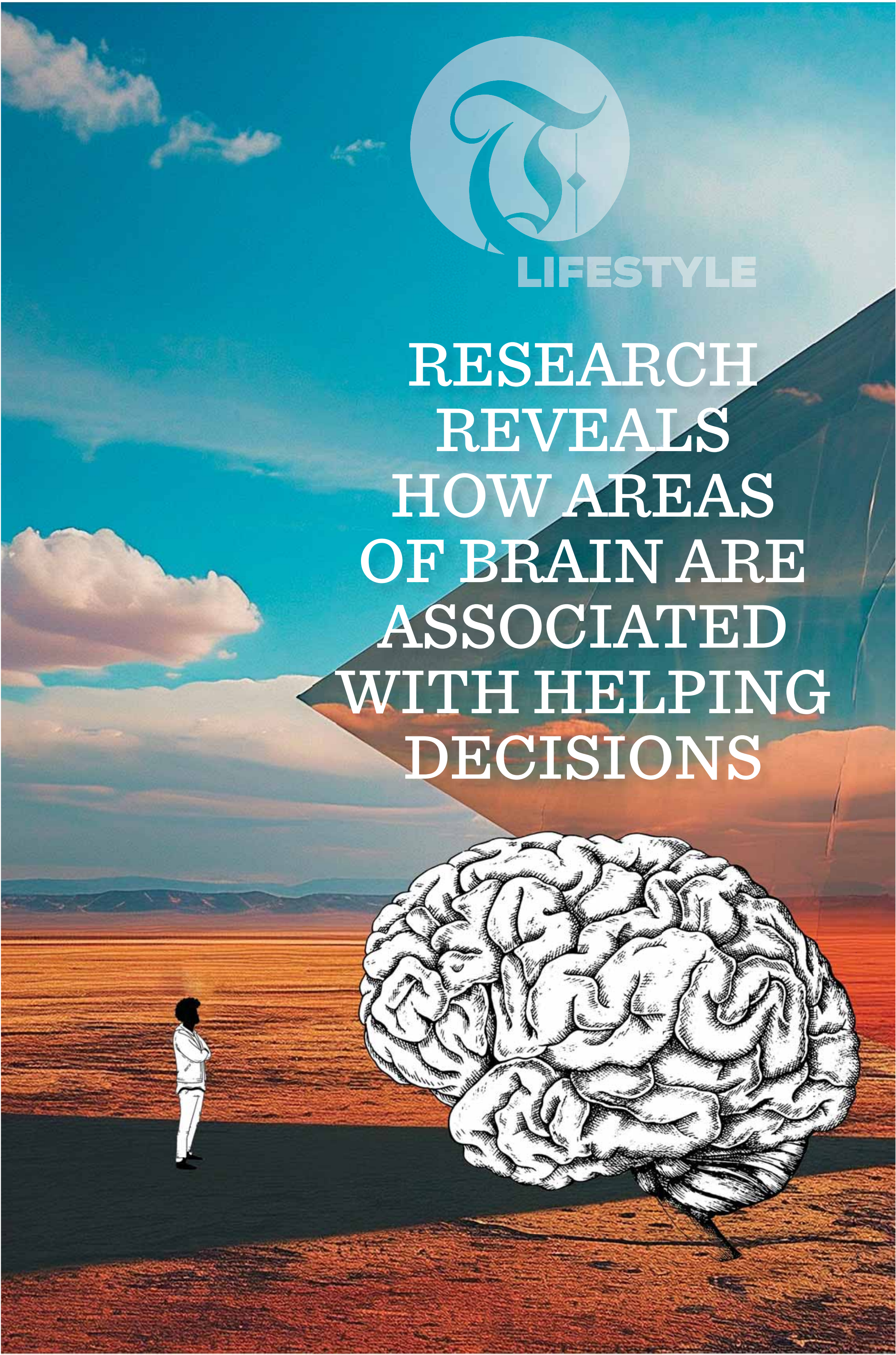
The regulations aim to prevent authorities from rolling out measures that exclude or restrict market competition, Zhou Zhigao, an official of the State Administration for Market Regulation, told a press conference Friday.

When formulating laws, rules and policies related to business activities, the authorities will be required to conduct such reviews over several aspects, including market entry or exit, the free flow of goods, and business operation costs and practices, Zhou said.

For instance, official policies should not contain unreasonable or discriminatory conditions on market access, or restrict the entry of products from the outside into the local market. Without legal support or the approval of the State Council, authorities are forbidden to grant

specific businesses tax breaks or give selective or differentiated incentives or subsidies. To safeguard the autonomy of business operation, governments are prohibited to illegally interfere with the price levels that should be regulated by the market or exceed its legal authority to set guided prices.

Attaching great importance to fair competition, China has rolled out an array of measures to eliminate market barriers and make sure that all types of capital can have equal opportunities, fair market access and orderly competition. -Xinhua



LIFESTYLE

RESEARCH REVEALS HOW AREAS OF BRAIN ARE ASSOCIATED WITH HELPING DECISIONS

Researchers found that a particular brain region—which they identified through a study of patients who had brain damage to that region—controls our willingness to assist others. Understanding the areas of the brain associated with “helping” decisions is crucial to comprehending how people could be inspired to take on major global issues like infectious diseases, climate change, and international conflict. It is also necessary to discover novel treatments for social interaction difficulties.

Researchers from the Universities of Birmingham and Oxford conducted the study, which was published in Nature Human Behaviour. It demonstrates for the first time how the ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC), a brain region, plays a crucial role in helpful, or “prosocial,” activities.

Lead author Professor Patricia Lockwood said:

“Prosocial behaviours are essential for addressing global challenges. Yet helping others is often effortful and humans are averse to effort. Understanding how effortful helping decisions are processed in the brain is extremely important.”

In the study, the researchers focused on the vmPFC, a region located right at the front of the brain, which is known to be important for decision-making and other executive functions. Previous studies using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI scanning) have linked the vmPFC to choices that involve a trade-off between the rewards available and the effort required to obtain rewards. However, these techniques cannot show whether a part of the brain is essential for these functions.

Three groups of participants were recruited for the study. 25 patients had vmPFC damage, 15 patients had damage elsewhere in the brain, and 40 people were healthy age and gender-matched control participants. These groups allowed the researchers to test the impact of damage to vmPFC specifically.

Each participant attended an experiment where

they met another person anonymously. They then completed a decision-making task that measured how willing they were to exert physical effort (squeezing a grip force device) to earn rewards (bonus money) for themselves and for the other person.

By enabling participants to meet - but not see - the person they were ‘working’ for in advance, researchers were able to convey the sense that participants’ efforts would have real consequences, but hide any information about the other person that could affect decision-making.

Each choice the participants made varied in how much bonus money for them or the other person was available, and how much force they would have to exert to obtain the reward. This allowed the researchers to measure the impact of reward and effort separately, and to use advanced mathematical modelling to precisely quantify people’s motivation.

The results of the study clearly showed that the vmPFC was necessary for motivation to help others. Patients with vmPFC damage were less willing to choose to help others, exerted less force on even after they did decide to help, and earned less money

to help others compared to the control groups.

In a further step, the researchers used a technique called lesion symptom mapping which enabled them to identify even more specific subregions of the vmPFC where damage made people particularly antisocial and unwilling to exert effort for the other person. Surprisingly, damage to a nearby but different subregion made people relatively more willing to help.

Co-lead author Dr Jo Cutler said: “As well as better understanding prosocial motivation, this study could also help us to develop new treatments for clinical disorders such as psychopathy, where understanding the underlying neural mechanisms can give us new insights into how to treat these conditions.”

“This region of the brain is particularly interesting because we know that it undergoes late development in teenagers, and also changes as we get older,” added Professor Lockwood. “It will be really interesting to see whether this area of the brain can also be influenced by education - can we learn to be better at helping others?” -ANI

SPORTS

Deschamps ‘unconcerned’ as Mbappe-less France struggle

Les Bleus were held by the Netherlands to a goalless draw after their star forward was rested due to nose injury

LEIPZIG: All the cameras were on Kylian Mbappe as he took his place on the bench for France's Euro 2024 game against the Netherlands and, with such attention, it was hard for him to hide his emotions as his team played out a goalless draw with the Netherlands on Friday.

The 25-year-old striker, who broke his nose in France's opener, occasionally looked frustrated, at one stage had his head in his hands and also stood to shout out encouragement to his team-mates.

But he was not where he wanted to be - on the pitch - and Les Bleus badly missed him in a draw where they missed numerous chances.

"I am not concerned," France boss Didier Deschamps said about his side's failure to score in Mbappe's absence.

"It is just the name of the game. Sometimes you have countless chances and don't hit the back of the net and sometimes it is the other way round.



"I would be worried if there were not any chances. Efficiency at high-level football is important and it is something we can work on."

France are a side filled with talent in all areas of the pitch, but the statistics of how they fare without Mbappe will be concerning.

They have now failed to win any of the past seven games without the striker in the starting line-up in the past two years - drawing five and losing the other two.

While France are all but through to the knockout stage - they need only a draw in their final Group D game against Poland to guarantee a last-16 place - they have played two matches at this tournament and scored just one goal.

Netherlands boss Ronald Koeman may not admit it, but he must

have been relieved to see Mbappe on the bench. France had won both meetings when these sides met in qualifying, with Mbappe scoring four of his team's six goals in those games.

"It is always different," Koeman said of what it is like to face France without Mbappe.

"It is different for us and different for the France national team, we are talking about one of the best players in Europe and maybe the world, so of course that is different."

Deschamps, though, feels there is a bigger picture to consider, and believes both Mbappe and France will benefit from him not being risked just four days after his broken nose.

He took part in training on Thursday wearing a mask, and

Deschamps had suggested "everything was moving in the right direction" for Mbappe to be available. But after the match the manager said: "If it had been a decisive game I may have thought twice about him playing or not.

"But it is important for me to think about how he is feeling, he has a bruise, he has to wear a mask and that may change his vision too.

"There is also the risk we would be taking and with each day passing we are getting to the point where he is better as well.

"I felt the wiser decision was to keep him on the bench."

With Mbappe out, this was the chance for Antoine Griezmann to step up. Griezmann was just that against the Netherlands, but not in the way he would like to remember.

Most of France's best chances



fell to the Atletico Madrid striker. In the first half, he missed from close range, albeit the ball from Adrien Rabiot was not the best, before sending a decent opportunity wide soon after.

In the second half, he was picked out by the impressive N'Golo Kante and looked certain to score, but a poor first touch proved costly as his prodded effort was saved.

But despite the concerning finishing, Deschamps feels Griezmann has plenty to offer the team.

"Antoine doesn't have a fixed position," he added. "The more touches of the ball he has the better he is. "He is someone who is generous with his football and sometimes his generosity means he doesn't have a clear head as he should have.

"There are no fixed positions for

him, he can play higher when we need him higher up the pitch."

While there may be attacking concerns for France the big positive for them so far have been the performances of Kante.

The former Chelsea player made a surprise return to international football after a two-year absence when he was called up to Deschamps' squad, and he has been the standout player in France's two games so far.

"N'Golo is still out there running I think," joked Deschamps, one hour after the game against the Netherlands had finished. "But it is not all he does, He is able to really project us up the field [and it] is important with the rest of our midfield we have that variety and we are not that predictable for our opponent."

- Agencies

TENNIS

Draper stuns Alcaraz at Queen's

LONDON: Jack Draper says winning his first ATP title set him "free" of negativity and led to his stunning victory over Wimbledon champion Carlos Alcaraz at Queen's.

New British men's No 1 Draper, 22, earned a 7-6 (7-3), 6-3 victory over defending champion Alcaraz in the second round.

Spain's Alcaraz, 21, saved three match points at 5-2 before Draper served out from 0-30 to the delight of an ecstatic home crowd.

It continued a memorable week for Draper after he claimed the first ATP title of his career at the Stuttgart Open last Sunday.

On Monday, he was confirmed as his nation's leading player on the men's tour.

"There was such a bee in my bonnet about winning an ATP event," said Draper, who lost finals in Sofia and Adelaide before triumphing in Stuttgart.

Beating world No 2 Alcaraz - who claimed the French Open earlier this month - is the biggest win of Draper's career by ranking.

He also ended three-time Grand Slam champion Alcaraz's streak of 13 straight wins on grass.

"Coming to Queen's for a home tournament, being British number one, you would think would put more stress on my shoulders - but it is the opposite," added Draper.

"I feel calm and relaxed because I know I'm doing the right things. I trust in my tennis and know I'm going to be tough to beat."

Draper, who extended his winning run to seven matches, will



play American fifth seed Tommy Paul in the quarter-finals.

Sabalenka, Jabeur retire at Berlin Open

Aryna Sabalenka and Ons Jabeur became the latest Wimbledon contenders to retire early from matches in the lead up to the Grand Slam tournament. World No 3 Sabalenka appeared to struggle with a shoulder injury and retired while trailing 5-1 in her Berlin Open quarter-final against Anna Kalinskaya.

Two-time Wimbledon finalist Jabeur decided not to continue because of illness after dropping the first set 7-6 (11-9) to Coco Gauff.

Reigning Wimbledon champion Marketa Vondrousova and 2022 winner Elena Rybakina also retired from their matches earlier in the tournament.

The first round of the women's singles at Wimbledon starts on 1 July. Jabeur saved eight set points against Gauff before the American top seed clinched the opener.

The Tunisian, who appeared to

be having problems breathing, was seen by the doctor before deciding not to start the second set.

"It doesn't feel like a win. We had such a good first set," Gauff said in her on-court interview afterwards.

"I wish Ons the best, I think it's something that is just going to happen today and she'll be better tomorrow, so hopefully she'll be at Wimbledon."

Earlier in the week, Czech Vondrousova slipped and injured her right hip against Kalinskaya in the second round, while Rybakina withdrew from her last-eight tie against Victoria Azarenka because of illness.

Gauff will play compatriot and doubles partner Jessica Pegula in the semi-finals. Fourth seed Pegula returned to complete a 7-6 (7-2), 3-6, 6-3 victory against Katerina Siniakova after rain held up their match on Friday. Meanwhile, Kalinskaya, who now has a 7-0 win record against top-10 players this season, will face former world No 1 Azarenka.

- Agencies

EURO 2024

Yaremchuk nets winner for Ukraine against Slovakia

DUSSELDORF: Roman Yaremchuk scored a crucial winner for Ukraine as they came from behind to beat Slovakia 2-1 and keep their Euro 2024 campaign alive on Friday.

The Valencia striker had been on the pitch for 13 minutes when he gave his side the lead.

Yaremchuk was alert to Mykola Shaparenko's ball over the top and finished smartly.

A brilliant touch allowed him to delicately nudge the ball past Slovakia goalkeeper Martin Dubravka into the bottom left corner from six yards out.

Ivan Schranz scored after 17 minutes to put Slovakia in front, with his second goal in as many games, before Ukraine came back to seal a huge victory.

Shaparenko equalised for Ukraine in the 54th minute, sweeping home from close range following Oleksandr Zinchenko's cross, before Yaremchuk made sure of three priceless points ten minutes from time.

It is the first time Ukraine have come from behind to win a match at the Euros since a 2-1 victory against Sweden in 2012.

Ukraine move level on points with opponents Slovakia and Romania, who play their second group-stage match against Belgium.

Serhii Rebrov's side were below par in the first half, despite creating plenty of chances.



The decision to drop Real Madrid goalkeeper Andriy Lunin was vindicated in the opening 10 minutes when replacement Anatolii Trubin made two crucial saves.

He denied Lukas Haraslin's low-angled finish with his legs and then thwarted Schranz from close range.

Trubin was called into action again, saving David Hanco's free-kick which he palmed out for a throw-in.

Hanco took the resulting set-piece and found Haraslin who got in behind the Ukraine defence with ease and swung in a cross which was pounced upon by Schranz.

Mykhailo Mudryk initially struggled to impose himself on

the game and had a wild shot when through on goal.

He did improve and passed to Artem Dovbyk who performed some clever footwork in the box with his shot at the near post blocked by Peter Pekarik.

However, Ukraine's second-half showing highlighted the fighting spirit in their side as they kept going after Shaparenko's equaliser and were rewarded when Yaremchuk sealed the victory, becoming just the second Ukrainian substitute to score at a major tournament.

There were emotional scenes at full-time with Yaremchuk in tears as the Ukrainian players applauded their fans after a much-needed victory.

- Agencies

OGA BOARD MEETS THE R&A OFFICIAL

New beginners' golf programme to be launched in Oman schools

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Azzan bin Kais Tarik Al Said, Oman Golf Association (OGA) chairman, and the OGA Board Members recently held fruitful talks with Neal Graham, The R&A Development Manager for the Middle East and India, at the Oman Olympic Committee headquarters.

During his visit, Graham presented The R&A's key development objectives which set out how to make golf more accessible, more appealing and more inclusive and to be responsible for upholding the traditions of golf while embracing change and breaking down barriers to progress.

There was discussion around how it aligns with the objectives



and strategy of the Oman Golf Association, and how this in turn supports the wider strategy of Oman Vision 2040.

Looking toward the future, the OGA board were excited to discuss

details of the upcoming launch of The R&A Unleash Your Drive in schools programme in Oman, a six-week beginners golf programme for students which introduces the basics of golf as well as nine

mental toughness skills which are integrated into the programme to positively impact their wellbeing.

The programme is delivered within the school grounds providing a safe environment for all.

The R&A's historical support of the OGA has been instrumental in providing the opportunity for many women and girls as well as junior golfers to experience the game of golf and its many benefits for the first time.

Sayyid Azzan said: "We extend our sincere thanks to The R&A for their ongoing support and invaluable guidance. Golf is still in its infancy here in Oman, but we believe that this provides us with a fantastic opportunity for growth. With the support of The R&A and the

Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth, the Oman Golf Association will continue to strive to offer the opportunity to experience golf to as many people as possible, and to provide a continuous pathway for those who excel to support their ongoing development."

In his remarks, Graham said: "It is through working closely with golfing bodies around the world, like the Oman Golf Association, that The R&A will ensure that golf is thriving 50 years' from now. I would like to acknowledge the work of the Oman Golf Association to introduce women and junior golf initiatives in the country and their commitment to the long-term growth of the sport. As signatories of The R&A Women in Golf

Charter it is pleasing to see them fulfilling the pledge they made to growing the sport."

Together The R&A and the United States Golf Association (USGA) govern the sport of golf worldwide. Based in St Andrews Scotland, the home of golf, The R&A engages and supports activities to ensure that golf is a thriving sport 50 years from now for all on a global scale, with 165 overseas affiliates, across 146 countries including the Sultanate of Oman, supported.

The R&A is committed to investing OMR100 million over ten years in developing golf and supports the growth of the sport internationally, including the development and management of sustainable golf facilities.

IN PICTURES



Yohji Yamamoto Menswear Spring/Summer 2025 collections
A model presents a creation from the Menswear Spring/Summer 2025 collections by Yohji Yamamoto during the Paris Fashion Week in Paris, France. [xinhua](#)



Highlight of Moscow Historical Festival
People play during the Moscow Historical Festival in Moscow, Russia. [xinhua](#)



Firefighters try to extinguish bus fire in Surabaya, Indonesia
Firefighters try to extinguish a bus fire at a garage in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia. No casualty was reported in this fire. [xinhua](#)



Ajay Devgn, Tabu, Shantanu Maheshwari, Saiee Manjrekar and Jimmy Shergill during the trailer launch of 'Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha'
Bollywood actors Ajay Devgn, Tabu, Shantanu Maheshwari, Saiee Manjrekar and Jimmy Shergill pose for a picture during the trailer launch of their upcoming movie 'Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha', in Mumbai. [ANI Photo](#)



Men's Volleyball Nations League 2024: Canada vs. the Netherlands
Justin Lui (top) of Canada saves the ball during the match between Canada and the Netherlands at the Men's Volleyball Nations League (VNL) 2024 in Pasay City, the Philippines. [xinhua](#)



Full moon rises in sky over Ohrid Lake in Struga, North Macedonia
A full moon rises in the sky over Ohrid Lake in Struga, North Macedonia. [xinhua](#)

ROUND-UP

Drive home sleek Changan SUV UNI-T sport edition with low EMI

The Changan UNI-T 1.5 Turbo 7 DCT - 2WD Sport boasts a cutting-edge design and intelligent features that rival those found in high-end luxury brands.



MUSCAT: Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment (AGAE) has announced a special low EMI offer on the Changan SUV UNI-T sport version, celebrated as the 'producer of future-tech'. The Changan UNI-T 1.5 Turbo 7 DCT - 2WD Sport boasts a cutting-edge design and intelligent features that rival those found in high-end luxury brands. Customers can now purchase the Changan SUV UNI-T with EMI options starting at OMR 155 for a six-year term. This EMI is based on a 20% down payment and a loan tenure of six years, subject to credit approval by the lending institution. This offer is available exclusively for vehicles purchased for personal use and is subject to the terms and conditions set by the lending institution. The UNI-T 2WD Sport model offers a blend of advanced technology and sporty aesthetics, delivering a fresh and exhilarating driving experience. Its striking exterior design and avant-garde interiors redefine modern automotive luxury. A spokesperson for AGAE stated, "We are delighted to offer the low EMI option for the Changan SUV UNI-T sport edition in Oman. This remarkable vehicle captivates with its striking presence, exceptional performance, and cutting-edge features. It provides an exhilarating driving experience,

enhanced by its luxurious and innovative amenities. With its bold design, premium interiors, and advanced safety and assistance technologies, the UNI-T stands out as a symbol of modern automotive excellence. This vehicle blends athleticism, intelligence, and premium appeal, delivering unparalleled value and a unique ownership experience." The UNI-T boasts a powerful 1.5-litre turbocharged engine

generating 175 hp and 300 Nm of torque. Paired with a 7-speed DCT transmission and a two-wheel-drive system, it delivers impressive performance on the road. Its fuel-efficient blue engine offers excellent fuel economy of 17.3 kilometers per liter, as verified by GSO. Exterior features include 20" alloy wheels, LED DRLs, LED headlamps, an extra-large panoramic sunroof, and electrically adjustable & folding ORVMs. The Changan UNI-T SUV showcases a stylish and modern look with unique split headlights, polygonal tail lights, quad exhaust pipes, a skid plate, and a V-shaped spoiler. Interior features include electrically adjustable co-driver and front seats with heating, a T-shaped centre console, and a D-shaped steering wheel. Infotainment facets include a 10.3" LCD IC display, a 10.3" infotainment screen, navigation, voice control function, mirror link

with Apple CarPlay, and six speakers. Comfort features include remote engine start/stop, an electric tailgate, and remote parking. The new intelligent dual-screen design with ultra-wide angle, high-resolution, and adaptive backlight control protects the eyes from fatigue while reading and driving. When driving into a parking area with clear lines, drivers can activate the auto parking system. The vehicle will automatically find a parking space within 20m and complete parking on its own, making parking easy and fun. Changan UNI-T 2WD includes luxury features and additional exterior elements such as UNI Sports Kit - front and rear bumpers, side skirts, rear sports spoiler, brake calipers in contrast color, exterior elements in high gloss black, and bilateral quad exhaust pipes. Interior elements include contrast color trims and seat belts, black interior, and sports seats. The UNI-T adopts pure, precise, and agile exterior design elements. The hidden door handle design blends in with the body, making it simple and sophisticated. The UNI family's classic borderless grille design is combined with the narrow, sharp headlamps on both sides for an intense look. The aerodynamic airship-shaped spoiler improves driving stability and adds to the vehicle's fashionable aesthetics. The space battleship gear shift knob has a sporty design, giving the user a sense of exploration on every trip. Equipped with the IACC system, the UNI-T can also achieve L2 autonomous driving with features like FCW, AEB, LDW, LAS, TJA, LCDA, and more. The UNI-T is equipped with four high-definition wide-angle cameras giving a 360-degree view around the vehicle in real time for safe parking. The UNI-T features a simplistic yet avant-garde interior design. It uses an asymmetrical layout in the instrumentation and center console with bright colors creating a technically dynamic interior. It adopts the Intelligent Cockpit Interaction System, which appears as two screens staggered on the surface but internally connected as one, providing a high-resolution display and adaptive backlight control to protect the eyes from fatigue while reading and driving. The UNI-T features newly designed seats with fuller side wings, providing reliable support and confidence when cornering. The wireless charging system offers ultra-fast charging with wide-range compatibility.

ENTERTAINMENT

Novo Cinemas hosts spectacular premiere of Bad Boys 4 in Oman

MUSCAT: Novo Cinemas at Mall of Muscat recently dazzled audiences in Oman with an exclusive premiere of the highly anticipated Bad Boys 4, starring the legendary Will Smith. This highly anticipated action-comedy, distributed in the region by Empire Entertainment, delivered an exhilarating blend of high-octane action and laugh-out-loud moments. The premiere, held just days before the official launch on June 6, was a star-studded event attended by guests from the Novo Cinemas Loyalty program, partners, moviegoers and media personnel. The audience was thrilled by the film, with many noting the perfect mix of action and comedy. A guest who thoroughly enjoyed the movie said, "Bad Boys 4 is a wild ride from start to finish, balancing explosive action and hilarious comedy." Novo Cinemas has been a pioneering entertainment destination, offering visitors an unforgettable cinematic experience since 2014. Beyond just movies, Novo Cinemas is dedicated to providing bespoke entertainment options across a variety of viewing platforms. These include the luxurious 7-Star VIP theatres, the immersive MX4D screens,



and the unique Majlis Experience. With 153 screens across 15 locations throughout the GCC, Novo Cinemas stands as one of the Middle East's largest and most rapidly growing cinema exhibitors. Specifically, Novo Cinemas operates 75 screens in seven locations in Qatar, 14 screens in one location in Oman, and 64 screens across seven cinemas in the UAE. Novo Cinemas is more than just a place to watch movies, it is a go-to spot for hosting events, birthdays, private bookings, and more. Home to the most innovative entertainment experiences in the GCC, Novo Cinemas offers each visitor A Great Time Out. Novo Cinemas also has a strong digital presence and a fantastic loyalty program that rewards members for every purchase. By joining the Novo Premiere Club, customers can access exclusive benefits, earn points with each visit, and enjoy awesome perks like free tickets and seat upgrades. The Bad Boys 4 premiere at Novo Cinemas in Oman was a massive hit, showcasing the cinema's commitment to delivering outstanding entertainment experiences. With innovative viewing options and exceptional customer service, Novo Cinemas continues to set the standard in the Middle East's cinema industry.

ACHIEVEMENT

Indian School Al Seeb student wins bronze at Asian Youth Chess Championships

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN: Velavaa Ragavesh, a Class 10 student from the Indian School Al Seeb, emerged as the Bronze Medallist in the 26th Asian Youth Chess Championships, held from June 9 to June 21 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The event showcased exceptional talent from young chess players across Asia. Competing in the Under 16 category, Velavaa displayed remarkable skill and strategic thinking. His consistent performance throughout the event earned him a total of 144 ELO points, ensuring his spot on the podium. The Asian Youth Chess Championships attracts the best young players from the continent, divided into various age categories from Under 8 to Under 18, ensuring fair competition among peers. This year's event saw a large turnout, with participants from numerous countries striving for top honours. Organized by the Kazakhstan Chess Federation, in collaboration with the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) and FIDE, the tournament provided a platform for young talents to showcase their



abilities, learn from each other, and gain invaluable international experience. Velavaa's achievement reflects his dedication, hard work, and passion for chess. It has brought pride to his school and community, inspiring other young players to aim high. His success is also a testament to the unwavering support from his coach. Despite his success, Velavaa faced challenges due to the lack of sponsors. His participation was made possible through personal and family efforts. Moving forward, Velavaa is eager to participate in more tournaments and continue his chess journey. He is seeking potential sponsors to support his passion and help him compete at higher levels.



mai alkaline

pH 9.1 to 9.5

Alkaline Ionized Drinking Water

OmanOasis OmanOasisOfficial OmanOasisWater

HYDRATE SMARTLY

- ✓ Ultra-hydrating
- ✓ Revitalizing
- ✓ Energizing
- ✓ Electrolytes

800 71 222 9275 5522



oman OASIS

EID SALE
25-75% OFF

تخفيضات العيد
٢٥-٧٥% خصم

IDdesign

KARE



IDdesignoman



Markaz Al Bahja Mall



TOYOTA'S Summer Delights

Installment
Starting From
RO 73*



Installment
Starting From
RO 103*



Installment
Starting From
RO 78*



Installment
Starting From
RO 73*

Installment
Starting From
RO 61*



SERVICE*

FROM **3 YEARS / 30,000 KMS**
(whichever is earlier)

UP TO **10 YEARS / 100,000 KMS**
(whichever is earlier)

INSURANCE* 1 YEAR

Or Cash Gift in Lieu of Insurance From RO 125 up to RO 250

EMI HOLIDAY*
3 MONTHS INSTALMENT HOLIDAY

GRAND RAFFLE*



**HOLIDAY PACKAGE
TO TURKIYE**
(3 NIGHTS & 4 DAYS)



**IPHONE 15
PRO MAX**

CLICK

*Conditions Apply



Saud Bahwan Automotive LLC
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED C.R NO:1703412



Facebook.com/toyotaoman



@toyotaomanofficial



Youtube.com/toyotaoman



www.toyotaoman.com