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FOREIGN MINISTRY

Oman condemns US airstrikes on Iranian nuclear installations

MUSCAT: A spokesperson from Oman's Foreign Ministry issued a statement on Sunday expressing profound concern and condemned the escalation caused by the United States' direct airstrikes on sites within the Islamic Republic of Iran. Oman denounced this unlawful act of aggression and urges immediate and comprehensive de-escalation.

Flagrant violation
The spokesperson warned that the US action risks widening the conflict and constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and the United Nations Charter, which expressly prohibits the use of force and the infringement of state sovereignty. Furthermore, international law guarantees nations the right to pursue peaceful nuclear programmes under the supervi-



sion of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), in compliance with established protocols. The statement also emphasised that targeting nuclear facilities—prohibited under the Geneva Conventions due to the severe risks of radioactive contamination—further exacerbates the breach of global norms. -ONA

TELEPHONE CALLS

HM discusses Iran-Israel war with Egyptian, French and British leaders

MUSCAT:- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Sunday held telephone calls with President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Emmanuel Macron of the French Republic, and Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK). The telephonic discussions addressed the dangerous escalation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Israel, including the increasing frequency of attacks and their devastating consequences on civilian infrastructure and populations. Concerns were raised about the potential repercussions threatening the security and stability of the entire region. The recent U.S. military strikes on sites within the Islamic Republic of Iran were also discussed, with warnings that such actions risk further tension and escalation. During these calls, emphasis was placed on the importance of coordinated regional and international efforts to halt the cycle of



HM receives phone call from KSA Crown Prince **See also >A3**

escalation and spare the region additional destruction and humanitarian suffering. Particular attention was given to potential environmental hazards and radiological consequences, with the shared objective of safeguarding civilian lives and preserving regional security and stability. -ONA

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Omanisation in energy and minerals sectors

1 As part of the Shura Council's commitment to monitoring employment and Omanisation initiatives, the Youth and Human Resources Committee hosted Mohsen Hamad Al-Hadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, along with a number of officials. **>A2**

OMAN Muscat hosts 'All Oman' initiative



2 Muscat Governorate yesterday hosted the final round of "All Oman" initiative, which aims to enhance community partnership and embody the national trend of decentralization. The event was held under the auspices of Sayyid Saud bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Governor of Muscat. **>A3**

MARKET Pact inked for natural salt production

3 The Ministry of Energy and Minerals signed a mining concession agreement with the Global Integrated Engineering Company for Concession Area "I-51" in Al Wusta Governorate. The project has an estimated production capacity of 1.2 million tonnes annually. **>B1**

PERSONAL INCOME TAX LAW TO TAKE EFFECT FROM 2028



A 5% tax will be imposed on persons whose gross annual income exceeds OMR42,000

MUSCAT: The Personal Income Tax Law issued by Royal Decree No. 56/2025 on Sunday consists of 76 articles distributed across 16 chapters. The law will impose a 5% tax on the taxable income of natural persons whose gross annual income exceeds OMR42,000, derived from specific income types as defined by

the law. The law will come into effect at the beginning of 2028. The Tax Authority said that the Personal Income Tax Law complements the tax system in line with Oman's economic and social conditions and aligns with the role assigned to the Tax Authority. It also contributes to the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 by diversi-

fying income sources and reducing reliance on oil revenues, with targets of 15% of GDP by 2030 and 18% by 2040. Additionally, the tax aims to promote wealth redistribution among societal segments, enhancing social justice, while supporting the state budget and specifically financing part of the social protection system. The Authority also affirms that the implementation of the personal income tax follows an in-depth study assessing its economic and social impact, based on income data from various government entities. The study established a carefully considered exemption threshold, revealing that approxi-

mately 99% of Oman's population will not be subject to this tax. Notably, the exemption threshold is set high at OMR42,000, and the tax rate is low at 5%. The law also includes deductions and exemptions accounting for social considerations in the Sultanate of Oman, such as education, healthcare, inheritance, zakat, donations, primary housing, and other factors. Karima Mubarak Al Saadi, Director of the Personal Income Tax Project, confirmed that all necessary preparations and requirements for implementing the tax have been completed. The executive regulations of the law will be

issued within one year of its publication in the Official Gazette. She told Oman News Agency (ONA) that an electronic system has been developed by the Tax Authority to promote voluntary compliance and has been linked with the departments concerned to ensure accurate income calculation and verification of tax declarations. The Tax Authority has also strengthened its workforce through specialized training programs in line with the tax implementation requirements. Additionally, guidance manuals for natural and legal persons will be published according to a predetermined schedule. -ONA

Royal Decree promulgates Personal Income Tax Law

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik yesterday issued Royal Decree No. (56/2025) promulgating the Personal Income Tax Law, after the same was presented before the Council of Oman. Article (1) states that the "Personal Income Tax Law", attached to this decree, shall be enforced. Article (2) stipulates that the Chairman of the Tax Authority shall issue the Executive Regulation of the law attached to this decree within one year of the date of publi-

cation of the same in the Official Gazette. The Chairman of the Tax Authority shall also issue the decisions necessary for the implementation of the Law's provisions. Article (3) cancels the clause (1) of the article (18-bis) of the Income Tax Law issued by Royal Decree No. (28/2009). It also cancels all that contradicts the attached law or contravenes its provisions. Article (4) says that this decree shall be published in the Official Gazette and enforced from 1 January 2028. -ONA

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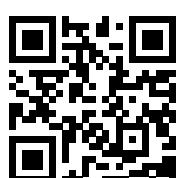


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Dhuhr.....	12:14pm
Asr.....	3:32pm
Maghrib.....	7:02pm
Isha.....	8:24pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	3:54am

Boosting Omanisation in energy and minerals sectors discussed

The meeting focused on the efforts being made to empower and develop the national workforce within the energy and minerals sectors



Times News Service

MUSCAT: As part of the Shura Council's commitment to monitoring employment and Omanisation initiatives and enhancing the role of national talent in key sectors, the Youth and Human Resources Committee hosted Mohsen Hamad Al-Hadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, along with a number of ministry officials.

The meeting focused on the efforts being made to empower and develop the national workforce within the energy and minerals sectors.

The session, held under the chairmanship of Younis Ali Al-Mandhari, Head of the Youth and Human Resources Committee, and attended by members of the Committee, began with a comprehensive presentation by the Un-

dersecretary.

He highlighted the Ministry's role in supporting and developing employment policies, underlining the need to strengthen ties between the Ministry, employment institutions, the labour market, and educational institutions.

He also outlined the key challenges facing institutions and companies operating in the petroleum sector and called for innovative solutions to boost employment and Omanisation in this strategic sector.

He affirmed that the Ministry remains committed to empowering national talent and integrating them into organisations within the oil and energy sectors.

Following the opening remarks, the Committee members were briefed through a presentation by a Ministry expert on ongoing efforts

to enhance Omanisation rates in operating companies across the oil and gas sector, as well as in contracting and service companies.

The presentation also featured an overview of the "Energy Sector Human Resources Forum," which serves as an important platform for exchanging ideas and experiences on strengthening national competencies.

Key themes of the forum and the number of participating companies were outlined.

The briefing included a detailed explanation of the "PetroJobs" platform, which offers a comprehensive database of available jobs in the sector.

Recent statistics were shared on job opportunities posted, registered users, and the nature of jobs listed.

The presentation also shed light on the "Tawteen" platform,

a key initiative designed to enhance employment opportunities for citizens.

Additionally, the efforts of "Tactical Provac Oman" Institute and Oman Energy Institute were highlighted for their role in preparing Omani talent for the energy and minerals labour market.

Further, the role of the Oman Society for Petroleum Services (OPAL) was addressed in supporting the Omanisation strategy.

The presentation detailed the strategy for Omanisation in the mining sector, which aims to increase Omani employment in mining projects, particularly in concession areas, ensuring that local communities benefit from the resulting economic opportunities.

The session included extensive discussions between the Committee members and the Undersecretary, focusing on several main

topics.

Key among them was the need to empower and qualify national talent for various technical and administrative roles in the energy and minerals sectors, and to increase Omanisation rates in companies operating in these areas.

The discussion stressed the importance of having clear, actionable plans and initiatives to expand employment opportunities in the oil and energy sectors.

The Committee also addressed the importance of coordination between the Ministry, higher education institutions, and specialised training institutes to ensure that academic outputs align with the needs of the job market in the energy and minerals sectors—particularly by training university students through institutes affiliated with the energy and minerals industries.

Regarding the mining sector, the Committee emphasised the necessity of obligating companies to employ and train national talent, especially in concession areas, as part of their social responsibility towards local communities.

It also called for an assessment of the quality and effectiveness of specialised training institutes in preparing and qualifying personnel for this sector.

In conclusion, the Committee Chair praised the Ministry of Energy and Minerals for its efforts in supporting Omanisation policies and improving the working environment across both sectors.

He stressed the importance of sustained cooperation and coordination between the Ministry and relevant stakeholders to achieve national goals related to employment and the development of Omani human resources.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROP

Oman Academic Accreditation Authority holds second meeting

MUSCAT: The Board of Directors of "Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education" on Sunday held its second meeting in 2025.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Rahma Ibrahim Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of "Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education". It was attended by Dr. Jokha Abdullah Al Shukaili, CEO of the Authority.

Estimated budget

During the meeting, the Board approved the Authority's estimated budget for the year 2026, looked



into updates in the "National System for Evaluating School Performance", reviewed a form on the disclosure of conflict of interest (for Board members) and took note

of "Oman Core Academic Learning Outcomes" programme.

The Board approved a number of evaluation reports about institutional standards that were pre-

viously presented to the Board, including reports of the "National University of Science and Technology" and "Oman College of Management and Technology".

National qualifications

The Board also reviewed the results of alignment of a number of national qualifications offered by some qualification-awarding authorities in line with the requirements of the National Qualifications Framework. Those included the result of alignment of the Advanced Diploma in Computing (Software Development) qualification that is awarded by the Scottish Qualifications Authority through Muscat College. -**ONA**

Four arrested for theft in Seeb area



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Four people have been arrested for stealing gold jewellery, sums of money, and valuables from several homes in the Wilayat of Seeb.

The Royal Oman Police said, "Muscat Governorate Police

Command, in cooperation with the Seeb Special Tasks Police Unit, arrested four individuals, including three Egyptians and one Jordanian, for stealing gold jewellery, money, and valuables from several homes in Seeb. Legal action is being taken against them."



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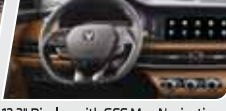
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AL RUSTAQ

Al Bayadah Mosque is a historic landmark

MUSCAT: Al Bayadah Mosque in the Wilayat of Al Rustaq, South Al Batinah Governorate is one of the religious and historic landmarks in the Sultanate of Oman.

The mosque was built in the 12th century by Al Yahmad. The mosque is a religious centre for dissemination of religious knowledge and a place for the discussion of the various religious and social issues.

The mosque is not just a place for worship but a school at which many scholars have graduated, including the founder of Al Yaruba Dynasty of Imams, Imam Nasser bin Murshid Al Yarubi, scholar Khamis bin Said Al Shaqsi, Imam Rashid bin Saif Al Lamki and Imam Nooruddin Al Salmi among others.

The mosque, since established, had many endowments including agricultural lands and date palm trees, the revenue of which contributed to the finance, maintenance and preservation of the mosque.

The preacher of the mosque, Khamis bin Sheikhan Al Hinai, said that the mosque is one of the oldest mosques in the Sultanate of Oman built by Ak Yahmad and is mentioned in many religious sources. -**ONA**

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EA

Environmental situation in Oman is stable, no signs of elevated radiation

MUSCAT: The Environment Authority (EA) has affirmed that the environmental situation in the Sultanate of Oman is stable, noting that no signs of elevated radiation levels or any abnormal environmental impacts have been registered so far.

The Environment Authority pointed out that it is closely monitoring recent developments related to the targeting of nuclear sites in the region, following the ongoing escalation and the potential cross-border environmental repercussions.

The Authority added that it operates within an integrated national system, acting in coordination with the authorities concerned to monitor and analyse environmental and radiation data in real-time.

This, it explained, included adhering to radiation monitoring protocols and utilising the early warning system deployed across the Sultanate of Oman's various governorates, in addition to continuous communication with relevant regional and international centres. -ONA



DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENTS

HM receives phone call from KSA Crown Prince

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on Sunday received a phone call from Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

The telephonic conversation addressed the rapidly escalating tensions and dangerous developments between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Israel, as well as recent U.S. intervention targeting

Iranian facilities.

The urgent need to intensify regional and international efforts to halt this destructive conflict and establish pathways for dialogue and understanding were emphasized during the phone call. The telephonic discussions also underscored the importance of safeguarding lives, preserving resources, and ensuring security and stability for all parties concerned. -ONA

‘All Oman’ initiative aims to boost community partnership

The initiative's activities included specialised, knowledge-transfer-oriented workshops aimed to build the capacity of the governorate's employees



MUSCAT: Muscat Governorate on Sunday hosted the final round of "All Oman" initiative, which aims to enhance community partnership and embody the national trend of decentralisation.

The event was held under the auspices of Sayyid Saud bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Governor of Muscat.

The final round of the three-day initiative, held at Oman Convention and Exhibition Center, aims to enhance direct communication

between Omani governorates and the parties entrusted with implementing Oman Vision 2040. It seeks to enlighten and empower the local community through meetings, visits, and workshops to unify efforts for devising an inte-

grated approach.

The Governor of Muscat said that "All Oman" initiative represents a real opportunity to convert the goals of Oman Vision 2040 into tangible reality through open dialogue and joint action aimed to

accommodate local initiatives in all governorates of Oman, leveraging the competitive advantages of the governorates in terms of investment, economic potential, social and cultural factors that set them apart.

He added that the realisation of development goals and the implementation of strategic plans can only be achieved through meetings that reflect the common government-private sector approach and thinking linked to the needs of the local community.

For his part, Dr. Khamis bin Saif Al Jabri, Head of Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit, underscored the efforts made to ensure the success of "All Oman" initiative, which toured all governorates of the Sultanate of Oman. He also lauded the advanced level of cooperation shown by the local community and official institutions.

Al Jabri pointed out that the initiative embodies the spirit of community partnership, focusing

on empowering local communities and enhancing the role of governorates in development.

The initiative's activities included specialised, knowledge-transfer-oriented workshops aimed to build the capacity of the governorate's employees and target audience from various sectors, like planning, project management and the Vision's follow-up offices.

In Muscat Governorate, "All Oman" initiative included a youth meeting that showcased inspiring experiences and success stories of how young people overcame challenges and how they made tangible impact in their respective field through innovation.

The youth meeting served as a platform for dialogue among young people and contributed to their role as active partners in implementing the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 by introducing development initiatives and projects and by engaging various segments of society. -ONA

COMMENTARY

The adventures in our minds



Saleh Al-Shaibany

You would say a person in his forties has a lot to do in life but if he is confined on a wheelchair many people would say he has limited options.

I was in the same opinion until I sat down and talked to such person. This was only last week when I saw a friend after many years. He waved at me when I was walking the opposite direction. He was sitting in a coffee shop all alone.

I interrupted my routine and joined him. It was then I noticed a wheelchair when I was sitting opposite him. He noticed what I was looking at and he smiled. He told me he is now confined on the wheelchair after a car accident that crippled him five years ago.

"Don't look sad," he told me when he noticed the expression on my face, "I had a lot of time to adjust myself to this situation."

I struggled for words because last time I saw him he was on the beach walking. But I did not tell him that. He smiled again and then answered my question that I did not have the encourage to ask. He went on to tell me that it was hard for the first twelve months not to be able to do his exercises. At least I had the courage to ask "what has changed after one year?"

His answer was puzzling when he said "it was something in the air and the horizon' that took him out of his mental miseries. I thought he was either having me on or his mental faculties were crippled, too. I think he knew what I was thinking and quickly explained.

His family took him for a day out in a village and while sitting out on a shade of a tree having lunch, he started taking an interest with the nature. He noticed birds swirling around on the trees. He also noticed the clouds touching the mountains peaks and the shapes of the shadows on the ground.

"It was then I realized that I

did not need my feet to get out of my wheelchair," he told me with a broad smile.

He is now creating adventures in his mind on a daily basis. He did not need to use the road to get where he wants to be. As a matter of fact, he could parachute himself on the valleys, fly high over the treetops and sail on the oceans.

So, he explained, the wheelchair is just a confinement for his body and not his mental prowess. In other words, he is not letting his disability pull him down. He is rising above the challenge and getting results. We sat there for another half an hour before he decided to call it a day and go home.

And there was another surprise for me. I expected someone to come and wheel him home. He saw it on my face and said, "I drive myself around."

I watched him get himself into the lift on his way to his car. Using his arms, he can lift himself behind the wheel and fold his wheel chair and put it on the passenger's seat. He is doing all that without using his legs.

So what have I learned from him? Very simple. The power of the mind is much stronger than our physical strength.

UNIQUE NATURAL AND CLIMATIC FEATURES

Jabal Al Akhdar Festival to be launched on 15 July

JABAL AL AKHDAR: The Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah is preparing to launch "Jabal Al Akhdar Festival," from 15 July and will continue till 30 August 2025.

A preparatory meeting, held in the Wilayat of Jabal Al Akhdar today, discussed the organisational and logistical plans for the festival.

The meeting was attended by Sheikh Sultan bin Mansour Al Ghufaili, Wali of Jabal Al Akhdar, along with representatives from government and private entities, civil society organisations, and event operators.

The upcoming edition of the festival will feature a range of tourism, entertainment, and cultural activities that highlight the unique natural and climatic features of Jabal Al Akhdar, reinforcing its status as a premier summer destination for visitors from within and outside the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting also emphasised enhancing institutional coordination among stakeholders to ensure a well-organised festival that meets visitors' expectations.

Discussions also covered improving the overall tourist experience, reviewing event site readiness, infrastructure plans, health monitoring, and visitor flow management, along with all supporting



services.

A visual presentation was given summarising the outcomes of the 2024 Jabal Al Akhdar Summer Festival, including visitor numbers, hotel occupancy rates, and community engagement levels. This step aims to build on past successes and achieve greater economic and tourism impact this year.

Additionally, the meeting outlined various planned activities, including theatrical performances, entertainment programmes, sports events, and cultural showcases.

A special presentation introduced the "Gulf Knights Forum," a new addition to this year's festival, targeting equestrian enthusiasts

from GCC countries. The forum will feature heritage and competitive programs, enriching the festival's regional appeal and fostering cultural exchange.

Jabal Al Akhdar Festival 2025 aligns with Al Dakhiliyah Governorate's efforts to boost domestic tourism, stimulate economic activity, and create temporary employment opportunities by supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and local producers, offering them participation and promotional opportunities.

The governorate is also promoting summer events through its "Our Summer is Cool" campaign, which highlights the temperate climate and tourist attractions of A'Dakhiliyah. -ONA

CABLE

HM the Sultan greets Duke of Luxembourg

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik has sent a cable of greetings to Duke Henri of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on his country's National Day.

In the cable, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere sentiments and best wishes to Duke Henri, wishing his country further progress and prosperity. His Majesty lauded the advanced relations between Oman and Luxembourg, expressing his hope that these ties would further grow and prosper to serve the joint interests. -ONA



PHONE CALL

HM the Sultan, UAE President discuss alarming regional developments

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik held a telephone call today with Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

During the call, the two leaders exchanged views on the concerning developments in the region, emphasizing the need to intensify regional and international coordination to contain escalation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Israel, in a manner

that spares the region from the scourge of crises and disasters while protecting its peoples, infrastructure and achievements.

Both sides expressed their rejection of the recent US attacks on Iranian territory, viewing them as provocative actions that undermine de-escalation efforts and heighten tensions. They warned that such developments could lead to serious repercussions threatening the security and stability of the entire region. -ONA



Study finds aflaj vital for Oman's social and economic wellbeing



Researchers warn that growing threats to falaj systems could destabilise the centuries-old foundations of social cohesion and sustainable living in Omani tribal society.

MUSCAT: Oman's traditional aflaj systems — centuries-old channels that once shaped where and how communities lived — are facing mounting threats that could undermine their role as cornerstones of Omani society.

A new research study warns that rapid urbanisation, environmental degradation, and changing social dynamics now endanger more than water access: They put at risk a long-standing model of cooperation, resilience, and balance.

"This isn't just about infrastructure or heritage," says Dr. Majid Labbaf Khaneiki, principal investigator of the study and UNESCO Chair on Aflaj Studies and Archaeo-Hydrology at the University of Nizwa.

"The aflaj are a living system that have sustained communities not only through water, but through social collaboration and shared responsibility."

The study, "Aflaj Systems and Social Cohesion in Oman, Dakhiliyah Region", funded by the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation under its Block Funding Programme, positions the aflaj as much more than functional irrigation tools.

It finds that these systems have long served as organising structures for intertribal cooperation, economic interdependence, and conflict resolution — contributing to Oman's unique socio-environmental equilibrium.

In challenging earlier anthropological portrayals of tribal societies as territorially insular, the re-



searchers introduce the concept of "hydro-tribalism" — a framework that explains how shared water management, rather than fixed land boundaries, has shaped tribal interaction in Oman.

The falaj, they argue, functions as a unifying force, compelling cooperation due to the technical and geographic realities of water flow.

"Falaj systems cross tribal lines by necessity," explains Dr. Labbaf

Khaneiki.

"To maintain and benefit from a shared water source, tribes had to develop mechanisms of negotiation, joint investment, and trust. That's where the real power of the aflaj lies — it made collaboration essential."

The study's methodology combined ethnographic fieldwork in northern Oman, in-depth interviews with local falaj stakeholders,

and a comprehensive literature review from archival and online sources.

It reveals how falaj-based cooperation facilitated not only social cohesion but also supported a broader hydro-economic network — with communities investing collectively in farming systems, coordinating planting schedules, and sustaining commerce through waqf-funded infrastructure.



These networks, the study suggests, have been instrumental in maintaining social balance and economic sustainability in often harsh environmental conditions. However, that equilibrium is increasingly fragile.

"With urban development encroaching on falaj zones and climate variability reducing water flow, the entire system is at risk of breakdown," Dr. Labbaf Khaneiki warns.

"We're not just talking about losing an irrigation method — we're talking about the erosion of centuries of social architecture."

The report calls for urgent action, including legal protection for falaj routes, educational efforts to revive traditional knowledge among younger generations, and integrated planning policies that

recognise aflaj as both environmental and cultural assets. The researchers stress that the value of the system lies not only in its technical ingenuity, but in the social intelligence it embodies.

"Falaj governance is rooted in equity and consensus. It's a model of sustainability that deserves more than admiration — it demands protection," says Dr. Labbaf Khaneiki.

The research, published in the Journal of Arabian Studies and GeoJournal, was conducted by a multidisciplinary team including Dr. Abdullah Al Ghafri, Amjad Al Rawahi, Dr. Khalifa Al Kindi, Dr. Nasser Al Saadi, Zahra Al Abri, and Ishaq Al Shabibi — each contributing critical expertise in hydrology, history, and cultural studies.



Sout Al Shabiba - Tamkeen wa Ta'theer

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Sout Al Shabiba to focus on Youth Empowerment and Entrepreneurship today

Sout Al Shabiba, the first edition of Oman's premier youth forum, will take place today, at JW Marriott Muscat, bringing together over 150 young leaders, industry experts, and policymakers for a high-impact day of dialogue, innovation, and action.

This dynamic platform is designed to empower Omani youth to actively shape the nation's socio-economic future, with discussions focusing on Oman Vision 2040, entrepreneurship, sustainability, skills development and startup ecosystem growth.

With a mission to spark real change, Sout Al Shabiba is where tomorrow's changemakers connect, collaborate, and lead.



CHIEF GUEST

His Highness Sayyid Faris bin Fatik A Said

PANEL DISCUSSION 1

Cultivating Entrepreneurship & Innovation for Omani Youth



Eng. Abdulrahman Al Yahyai
CEO, Integrated Gas Company (IGC)



Eng. Said Al Shanfari
CEO, Oman Convention and Exhibition Center (OCEC)



Ali Ahmed Muqbal
CEO, Sharakah



Dr. Sulaiman Al Hasani
Deputy Dean Academic & Resources, Global College



Talal Abdulrahman Al Zadjali
Acting Chief Operations Officer, Development Bank



Khalid Al Mahrooqi
Co-Founder & CEO, Qpay



Abdullah Nasser Al Saidi
Media Professional

Moderator

PANEL DISCUSSION 2

Policy, Collaboration & Sustainability for Youth Empowerment



Hassan Haider Mohammed Jawad Al-Lawati
Chairman, Oman Association for Persons with Disabilities



Ghassan Fadhal
Director, Tashgheel



Rumaitha Al Busaidi
Vice President, Environment Society of Oman (ESO)



Lawyer Omran Aljabri
CEO Deputy, Ahmed Al-Muqbali Advocate and Legal Consultants



Khalfan bin Saeed Al Amri
Media professional and TV presenter Oman TV

Moderator

SPEAKERS



Dr. Ghalib bin Saif al Hosni
Chairman, OSHRM
Chief People Officer, Omantel



Eng. Amer Al Fadhil
Managing Partner, Competence HR



Qasim Mohamed Alzadjali
Assistant Officer Customer Relationship Management, Oman Development Bank



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OIA’s assets top OMR20bn

Its investments spanned over 50 countries through its three portfolios: the National Development Fund (NDF), the Future Generations Fund, and Future Fund Oman (FFO)

MUSCAT: In line with its commitment to transparency and disclosure, and as part of its ongoing growth trajectory across its investment portfolios, Oman Investment Authority (OIA) unveiled its 2024 financial results.

The report highlighted a rise in its assets to over OMR20 billion, with profits reaching OMR1.585 billion.

Additionally, OIA injected OMR800 million into the state budget, a step that has earned it global ranking as the 8th sovereign wealth fund in terms of five-year investment return rate, according to a report by SWF Global.

To mitigate investment risks and maximise long-term benefits, OIA continued to diversify its investments geographically and sector-wise.

Its investments spanned over 50 countries through its three portfolios: the National Development Fund (NDF), the Future Generations Fund, and Future Fund Oman (FFO). Oman-based investments take the largest share of 61.3%, followed by North America with 19.9%, then Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Sector-wise, the local portfolio, the NDF, aligned with Oman Vision 2040 targets.

The energy sector accounted for 68% of its investments, followed by tourism and real estate at 9%, and services and logistics at 8% each.

The remaining share was distributed among strategic sectors such as mining, industry, food, and telecommunications.

The NDF invested approximately OMR1.9 billion in local projects in 2024, surpassing the target



of OMR1.7 billion.

Notable projects included the Duqm Refinery in the energy sector, the redevelopment of the the Lasil and Al Baydha copper mines in mining, the Asyad Container Terminal in logistics, and the launch of the Manah 1 and Manah 2 solar power plants in the public utilities sector.

Meanwhile, the international Future Generations Fund invested in 13 global funds across diverse sectors, including technology, artificial intelligence, energy, healthcare, and fintech.

It also invested in Elon Musk's xAI, reflecting OIA's focus on supporting global digital innovation and localizing advanced technologies.

Future Fund Oman, which began operations on 17 January 2024, received 294 investment applications in various sectors that align with the economic diversification plans.

The fund approved 44 proposals following robust and rigorous assessment standards. Its contributions to these projects totalled

OMR333.1 million. Key projects included the SoharPolySilicon plant—the largest outside China with an annual production capacity of 100,000 metric tonnes—and strategic partnerships with IDG Capital and ewpartners to attract global industrial companies by establishing three investment funds exceeding OMR250 million, targeting sectors like ICT, energy, agriculture, renewables, healthcare, and electric vehicles.

OIA continues to deliver on its national agenda, focusing on attracting foreign investment, empowering the private sector, enhancing credit ratings, building national capacities, and maximising local content and innovation.

The NDF attracted OMR3.348 billion in foreign direct investment in 2024, primarily in energy, followed by tourism and mining.

In line with its commitment to reducing public debt and ensuring financial sustainability, OIA repaid over OMR1.846 billion in the debts of its companies including OMR545 million for OQ Group before maturity. Gov-

ernment guarantees were also reduced by OMR1.3 billion, lowering the total from OMR3.4 billion in 2023 to OMR1.8 billion in 2024.

OIA also progressed its divestment programme to attract foreign capital and empower the private sector. It exited six assets in 2024, exceeding its target of five, including the highly successful IPO of 25% of OQ Exploration & Production's total shares, and divestments from OQBI.

Proceeds from these successful IPOs were redirected to new projects supporting economic diversification.

In its efforts to develop human capital and employment, OIA created 1,393 new jobs for Omanis, raising the Omanisation rate to 77.7%. Local content initiatives saw remarkable progress, with OMR265.5 million spent on SMEs in 2024, including OMR139 million for Riyada cardholders. SMEs accounted for 19.7% of total supply chain spending.

OIA also expanded its local content programs, launching the third edition of its mandatory list, which includes 311 products and services that should be sourced exclusively from local SMEs.

OIA also approved 32 scopes under its ring-fencing programme with a total of OMR71 million, and helped in the development of 38 SMEs with OMR11 million.

Abdulsalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of OIA, noted that 2024 marked sustained positive momentum, with most performance targets exceeded, particularly in local content, foreign investment, and job creation.

Al Murshidi attributed these achievements to the efforts of OIA's national talents and people. — **ONA**



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CENTRAL BANK OF OMAN



CBO Board of Directors discusses current global, regional affairs

MUSCAT: The Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Oman (CBO) convened its fourth meeting for this year (2025) at CBO Headquarters on Sunday.

At the meeting, the Board approved CBO's Strategy for the years (2026-2030) and the draft Close Out Netting Law, in addition to approving the appointment of an external auditor for CBO and Oman Credit and Financial Information Center (Mala'a) for the upcoming three years (2025-2027).

The Board also discussed the current global and regional affairs, affirming its continuous follow-up and assessment of any potential impacts on the Sultanate of Oman.

Moreover, the Board reviewed a host of issues, including the financial soundness indicators of banks for the period ending on 31 December 2024, CBO's Financial Position Report, the position of reserves and the performance of CBO's foreign investments, the

The Board also reviewed a host of issues, including the financial soundness indicators of banks

2025 quarterly report of Oman Credit and Financial Information Centre (Mala'a) and the semi-annual report on the project for enhancing CBO's monetary policy adequacy.

The Board also discussed the report on liquidity status in the banking sector for Q1, 2025.

The Board of Directors of the Central Bank of Oman reviewed a number of topics listed on the agenda, on which it made the appropriate decisions. — **ONA**

FROM TUESDAY TO THURSDAY

Shura Council to host Minister of Commerce

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Shura Council will convene its 12th, 13th, and 14th regular sessions during the period from Tuesday to Thursday, 24-26 June 2025, as part of the second annual sitting of the Tenth Term (2023-2027).

The sessions will include discussions on a number of draft laws, reports submitted by the Council's standing committees and working teams, in addition to the ministerial statement to be delivered by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

In a statement, Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Nadabi, Secretary General of the Shura Council, explained that the Council will host Qais bin Mohammed Al Yusef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, on Wednesday and Thursday, 25-26 June, to deliver his ministry's statement before the members of the Shura Council in a public session. The statement will be delivered in accordance with Article (69) of the Council of Oman Law, which stipulates that the Shura Council shall, at the beginning of each annual session, determine the programme of ministerial statements and their discussion points based on a joint proposal by the Bureau of the Council and the chairs of the standing committees.

The programme is then submitted to the government, along with the key elements and themes each statement must include according to the topic or sector it addresses.

According to the Secretary General, the ministerial statement will focus on six main

themes, namely: the contribution of the commerce and industry sectors to the gross domestic product (GDP); the Ministry's vision for the future of the industrial sector; projects implemented during the period 2020-2023; the evaluation of free trade agreements and the "Nazdaha" programme; the volume and trends of foreign direct investment; and the Ministry's future outlook.

Performance indicators

He added that the statement will present statistical analyses and performance indicators reflecting the current status of the commerce and industry sectors, while emphasising the importance of promoting investment by offering incentives and legislative facilitation, strengthening the legal framework, enhancing digital platforms, and supporting national initiatives such as "Invest in Oman."

The statement will also evaluate the outcomes of economic agreements concluded with GCC countries and other international partners. The Council's 12th regular session, scheduled for Tuesday, 24 June, will be dedicated to discussing a number of draft laws, including the draft amendment of certain provisions of the Cultural Heritage Law, and the draft Law on Combating Cybercrimes.

The relevant committees have reviewed the proposed laws and compared them with similar regional legislation, introducing appropriate amendments to enhance their effectiveness in alignment with national priorities.

Full story at timesofoman.com/oman

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY

Personal Income Tax: A key step for revenue diversification and sustainable growth

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Economy affirmed that the implementation of the Personal Income Tax (PIT), set to take effect at the beginning of 2028, represents a crucial step toward enhancing financial stability and completing the fiscal sustainability framework. This measure aims to ensure sustainable financing for development across various sectors.

Dr. Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy, stated: "The tax serves as a new revenue stream to diversify public income sources and mitigate risks associated with reliance on oil as the primary revenue source. It will help maintain current levels of social and service spending while preserving Oman's achievements in financial and economic stability under 'Oman Vision 2040' and its first executive phase, the Tenth Five-Year Plan (2021-2025)."

He explained that the (PIT) is a fiscal tool adopted by most countries worldwide as a key revenue source to fund state-provided services. Over 190 countries impose this tax, and in many, income taxes constitute the largest component of total tax revenues at federal and local levels, financing public goods and services. He noted that implementing the tax in Oman will yield significant economic benefits, supporting income diversification strategies and long-term fiscal stability as a pillar of economic growth. It, he added, will also sustain government revenues, strengthen the state's financial position, maintain credit ratings, and boost spending power for beneficiaries—directly stimulating aggregate demand and economic growth.

He highlighted that oil and gas revenues account for 68% to 85%



of Oman's total public income, depending on global energy prices. While oil prices have stabilised at favorable levels in recent years, they remain volatile. Oman has effectively managed additional oil revenues by reducing public debt to safe GDP ratios, increasing investment and social spending, and subsidizing essential goods and services, he further noted.

He affirmed that government policies and initiatives have successfully shifted Oman's fiscal and economic trajectory toward

sustainability and stability. Public debt has sharply declined, credit ratings have consistently improved to investment-grade levels, and Oman's standing in global competitiveness indices has risen. The Tenth Five-Year Plan sustained GDP growth near target rates, while economic diversification policies attracted quality investments and drove non-oil sector growth beyond expectations, the minister said.

He added: "As the Tenth Plan nears completion, Oman has advanced significantly in economic diversification and fiscal sustainability. The (PIT) will further prioritise financial stability by diversifying revenue sources—a strategic necessity to ensure equitable wealth distribution, enhance public services, strengthen social protection systems, and mitigate risks from global energy market fluctuations and other economic variables."

He emphasised that accelerating "Oman Vision 2040" and its economic diversification strat-

egy—transitioning to a knowledge- and technology-driven economy—requires sustainable funding for long-term planning. The Vision targets strategic investments in education, human capital, advanced infrastructure, innovation, and diversified sectors, alongside essential services and social protection. He pointed out that the 2025 budget allocates over OMR5 billion (39% to education, 24% to health, 28% to social protection) to these sectors, with the Social Protection Fund benefiting over 2 million people monthly as a key mechanism for household financial stability.

As for the potential economic impacts, He noted that the tax study assessed effects on GDP and 18 economic sectors, concluding minimal impact (under 1%) due to high exemption and low tax rates. Foreign investment is expected to remain unaffected, as the tax applies to individuals—not corporate entities—and Oman's rates remain competitive globally, the minister concluded. — **ONA**



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BUNKER-BUSTING BOMBS

Trump says US launched strikes on 3 Iranian nuclear facilities



WASHINGTON DC: US President Donald Trump said the US had carried out attacks against three nuclear sites in Iran, including the site in Fordo.

Trump posted on his Truth Social account that a “a full payload of bombs was dropped” on the site, that is known to be located several dozen metres underground, making it more difficult to attack.

According to the post, all planes that took part in the strikes left Iranian airspace.

“Congratulations to our great American warriors,” Trump said, adding that it is now “time for peace.” After announcing the US Air Force’s airstrikes on three nuclear

sites in Iran, US President Donald Trump re-shared a post on Truth Social which labels the site in Fordo, an underground nuclear site in Iran, as “gone.”

Despite carrying out airstrikes on nuclear sites across Iran, Israel had not attacked the Fordo site.

US bunker-busting bombs, which use weight and sheer kinetic force to reach deeply buried targets, were needed to reach the underground site.

An Iranian official confirmed that part of the nuclear site in Fordo was attacked by “enemy airstrikes,” according to Iran’s Tasnim News Agency and IRNA agency.

Trump warns against retaliation

In his first public remarks since carrying out ‘precision’ strikes in Iran, US President Donald Trump warned that he could order further action if Tehran does not agree to a satisfactory peace agreement.

In his address to the nation from the White House on Saturday (local time), Trump said, “There will be either peace or there will be tragedy for Iran, far greater than we’ve witnessed over the last eight days.”

In a Truth Social Post, Trump said, “This cannot continue. There will be either peace or there will be tragedy for Iran far greater than we

have witnessed over the last eight days.”

“Remember, there are many targets left. Tonight’s was the most difficult of them all, by far, and perhaps the most lethal. But if peace does not come quickly we will go after those other targets with precision, speed and skill,” Trump posted.

Trump thanked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and said, “I want to thank Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu. We worked as a team like perhaps no team has ever worked before, and we’ve gone a long way to erasing this horrible threat to Israel.”

— Agencies

FOREIGN MINISTRY

US attack on Iran’s nuke sites ‘flagrant’ breach of international law, says Russia

MOSCOW: Russia on Sunday said that US attacks on Iran’s nuclear sites are a “flagrant” breach of international law.

“The irresponsible decision to subject the territory of a sovereign state to missile and bomb attacks, whatever the arguments it may be presented with, flagrantly violates international law, the Charter of the United Nations, and the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council,” Russia’s Foreign Ministry said in a statement yesterday as reported by Al Jazeera.

“We call for an end to aggression and for increased efforts to create conditions for returning the situation to a political and diplomatic track,” Al Jazeera report citing the Russian foreign ministry said.

Meanwhile, Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi plans to travel to Moscow to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday, Politico reported. Araghchi emphasized the “strategic partnership” between Iran and Russia and told reporters in Istanbul. “We always consult with each other and coordinate our positions,” Politoco said citing media reports.

Spain’s Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares Bueno said his country is “very concerned” over the escalating tensions in light of US attacks on Iran.

“It is not a military solution that will bring peace and stability to the Middle East, but rather diplomacy, and therefore we hope that everyone will return to the negotiating table,” Albares said, speaking to the broadcaster RTVE.

Meanwhile, as per CNN, Putin has no plans to speak to his US counterpart, Donald Trump, the Kremlin said on Sunday. —ANI

Global outcry over US strikes targeting Iran’s nuclear sites


GCC Secretary-General Jassem Al-Budaiwi warned that the direct U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear installations would exacerbate tensions, jeopardising regional security

WASHINGTON DC: Many countries today condemned U.S. airstrikes targeting Iranian nuclear reactors, emphasizing the imperative of diplomatic conflict resolution and maximum restraint to spare the region and its populations from the perils of war.

U.S. President Donald Trump earlier announced strikes against three nuclear sites in Iran—Fordo, Natanz, and Isfahan—claiming these facilities were “completely destroyed.”

Rafael Grossi, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), called for an emergency meeting today, citing the “urgent situation in Iran.” The IAEA confirmed in a statement that no elevated radiation levels were detected outside the targeted sites post-strikes.



Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed grave concern over the U.S. use of force, urging member states to de-escalate and adhere to UN Charter’s obligations: “At this critical hour, chaos must be avoided. There is no military solution. Diplomacy is the only way forward. Peace is the only hope.”

GCC Secretary-General Jassem Al-Budaiwi warned that the direct U.S. strikes on Iranian nuclear installations would exacerbate

site bombings and demanded an immediate cessation of military operations in favour of dialogue. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) called for intensified international efforts toward a political resolution to usher in regional security. Kuwait expressed alarm over the strikes’ threat to global stability.

EU Foreign Policy Chief Kaja Kallas urged all parties to “step back from escalation” and return to negotiations, noting EU foreign ministers would discuss the situation tomorrow (Monday). France, while stressing non-involvement in the strikes, advocated restraint and nuclear non-proliferation treaty-based negotiations.

Russia condemned the strikes as a “blatant violation of international law,” demanding conditions for political and diplomatic reengagement. Egypt warned of “grave consequences” for global security. Iraq cautioned that escalation poses “severe risks to regional stability.” — Agencies

‘Don’t know how much room is left for diplomacy’

TEHRAN: Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Sunday condemned the US strikes on the country’s nuclear facilities and said that there is not much room for diplomacy while being under attack, CNN reported.

Araghchi said that the US crossed a red line by attacking them.

He went on to say he does not know how “much room is left for diplomacy” after the attack from the US, CNN reported.

“They crossed a very big red line by attacking nuclear facilities... We have to respond based on our legitimate right for self-defence,” Araghchi said.

Araghchi said Iran has a “variety of options available” when he was asked if his country is considering closing the Strait of Hormuz, a vital waterway in the Persian Gulf that, if shut, could affect global oil and gas exports. — ANI

IRANIAN PRESIDENT

India’s voice important in restoration of regional peace

NEW DELHI: Following the US strikes on nuclear facilities in Iran, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to the President of Iran over the phone and was briefed on the evolving situation in the region, sources said on Sunday.

Pezeshkian said that, according to sources, India’s voice and role were important in restoring regional peace and stability.

According to sources, the phone call came from Pezeshkian and lasted for 45 minutes.

During the call, Iranian President Pezeshkian described India as a friend and partner in promoting regional peace, security and stability.

The Iranian President thanked

the Prime Minister for India’s position and call for de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy.

During their telephonic exchange, Prime Minister expressed deep concern over the recent escalations. Emphasising the importance of dialogue and diplomacy, PM Modi reiterated that de-escalation is imperative for ensuring long-term regional peace, security, and stability.

In a post on X, the Prime Minister wrote: “Spoke with President of Iran @drpezeschkian. We discussed in detail about the current situation. Expressed deep concern at the recent escalations. Reiterated our call for immediate de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy as

the way forward and for early restoration of regional peace, security and stability.”

PM modi emphasised the need for a peaceful resolution and added, “Reiterated our call for immediate de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy as the way forward and for early restoration of regional peace, security and stability.”

US on Sunday launched strikes on three underground nuclear facilities in Iran. Speaking from the White House, Trump announced that America carried out “massive precision” strikes on Iran and warned the latter of further retaliation if peace was not achieved.

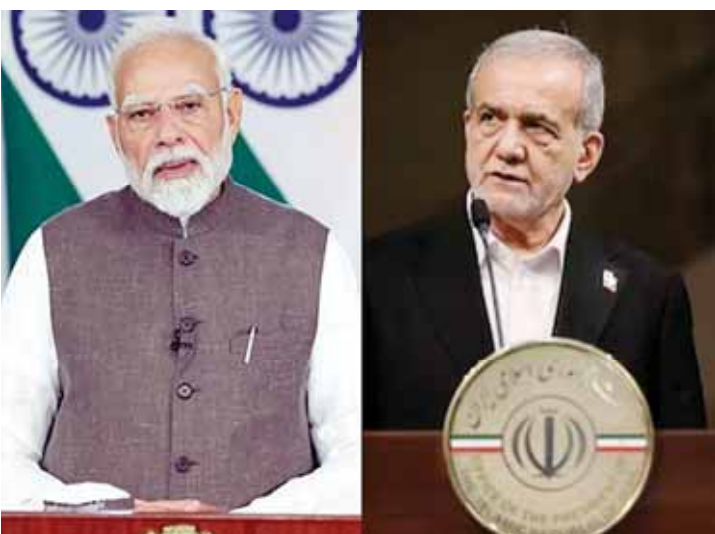
Iran condemned the attacks, calling them a violation of international

law and vowed to continue its nuclear programme.

A statement issued by AEOI confirmed that early on Sunday morning, Iran’s nuclear sites were “subjected to savage aggression—an act in violation of international laws, particularly the NPT.”

“This action, which violates international regulations, unfortunately took place under the indifference—and even complicity—of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA),” it said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised the military action under the leadership of Trump, stating that Trump’s bold decision to target Iranian nuclear facilities will change history. — ANI



SPORTS

INDIA-SRI LANKA TO HOST IN 2026

Canada qualify for ICC Men’s T20 World Cup



ONTARIO: Canada have become the 13th team to qualify for the 20-team ICC 2026 Men's T20 World Cup, to be held in India and Sri Lanka, after their seven-wicket win over Bahamas in Ontario in the Americas regional qualifying finals on Saturday.

It was Canada's fifth consecutive win in the four-team event - Bermuda and Cayman Islands are the other participants - and ensured them of a top-of-the-table finish irrespective of the results of the last two games.

This will be Canada's second appearance at a T20 World Cup. They had qualified for the 2024 edition in the West Indies and the USA via the same route.

The others to have already

qualified are the hosts India and Sri Lanka, as well as Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, England, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, USA and West Indies. Seven more teams - two from the Europe qualifier, two from the Africa qualifier, and three from the Asia-EAP qualifier will join them.

Their latest win, they bundled Bahamas for a mere 57 in 19.5 overs. Kaleem Sana picked up 3 for 6 from his four overs, Ansh Patel 2 for 7 from his quota, and Shivam Sharma 3 for 16 in 2.5.

The Canada batters chased down the target in just 5.3 overs with Dilpreet Bajwa top-scoring with an unbeaten 36 off 14 balls. - Agencies

MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

Former England pacer Lawrence dies aged 61

LONDON: David "Syd" Lawrence, the former Gloucestershire and England fast bowler, has passed away at the age of 61 following a year battling motor neurone disease (MND).

A strapping fast bowler, Lawrence played five Tests for England and making 280 appearances for Gloucestershire, taking 625 wickets for the county.

In 1988, he became the first British-born Black cricketer to represent England. In 2022, he became his country's first Black president.

This month, Lawrence received an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours, having been named as one of the inaugural Honorary Life Vice-Presidents of the ECB earlier in the year.

Lawrence was diagnosed with MND in 2024, a degenerative



condition that affects the brain and nerves, causing muscle wastage. There is no cure, and Lawrence was working to raise money and awareness of the condition.

Lawrence played his five Tests and single ODI between 1988 and 1992. A genuine quick bowler, he debuted at Lord's against Sri Lanka and went on to take 18 wickets, including his best of 5 for 106 against West Indies at The Oval in 1991. - Agencies

Brook 99, Bumrah fifer in evenly poised Test

It was a day of fluctuating fortunes and missed chanes in the first Test between hosts and India at Headingley

HEADINGLEY: On a day of fluctuating fortunes and individual brilliance at Headingley on Sunday, England's Harry Brook hit a thrilling 99 and India's Jasprit Bumrah's incisive five-wicket haul headlined a gripping third day that left the thir stage for a high-stakes contest over the remaining days.

It was Brook who lit up the afternoon with a free-flowing 99 that dragged England back into contention.



With a narrow lead, India began their second essay on a rousing note as they reached 90/2 in 23.5 overs before rain forced an early close of play on Sunday.

KL Rahul was at the crease on 47 and giving him company was skipper Shubman Gill on 6. First innings centurion Yashasvi Jaiswal departed for just 4 with the team's total at 16 when he edged behind off Brydon Carse.

Sai Sudharsan was sent back by Ben Stokes for 30 with the score at 82. The debutant hit four boundaries during his 48-ball knock.

Earlier, Brook fell one short of a deserved century, miscuing a pull to long leg off Prasidh Krishna after a thrilling, stroke-filled knock that saw him survive three chances.

He was caught in the final over on Saturday night before opening his account, only to be reprieved by a Bumrah no-ball.

On Saturday, Rishabh Pant dropped him on 46 off Ravindra Jadeja, and Yashasvi Jaiswal fluffed a simple chance at gully when he was on 80.

Brook capitalised, playing with audacity and ease. He took the attack to Mohammed Siraj with

consecutive boundaries and a towering six into the Football Stand, and even unfurled a falling paddle-sweep off Jadeja - a shot reminiscent of Pant's improvisation against Shoaib Bashir.

Jamie Smith (40) had earlier fallen to the short-ball trap, pulling Prasidh Krishna to deep backward square where Jadeja and B Sai Sudharsan combined for a smart relay catch.

Brook followed suit, top-edging a pull straight to Shardul Thakur at long leg in a similar dismissal.

England's lower order added vital runs. Chris Woakes (38) and Brydon Carse (22) put on 55 in just 7.2 overs, with Woakes bringing up 2,000 Test runs via back-to-back sixes off Prasidh Krishna.

But Siraj cleaned up Carse with a well-disguised yorker before Bumrah returned to finish the job, re-

moving Woakes and Josh Tongue to complete his third five-wicket haul in England, ending with figures of 5 for 83.

Brief scores: India 1st innings 471 and 2nd innings 90/2 (Sai Sudharsan 30, KL Rahul 47*) vs England 1st innings 465 (Ollie Pope 106, Harry Brook 99, Jamie Smith 40, Chris Woakes 38, Jasprit Bumrah 5/83, Prasidh Krishna 3/128, Mohammed Siraj 2/122). - Agencies

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OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES
The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by August 2025 reaching \$77.32, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose by 41 cents from the price of Thursday, which was \$76.91. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER
The MSX index closed at 4,525.31 points, up by 0.42% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.49% at 431.66 points. OIFC, up 13.16%, was the top gainer while, Oman Qatar Insurance, down 9.68%, was the top loser.

Oman LNG signs pre-FEED pact for methanation pilot plant

The project will help Oman reach its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050 through pioneering technologies like carbon capture and utilisation and methanation

MUSCAT: Oman LNG has signed an agreement with Kanadevia Corporation to conduct a Pre-FEED (Front-End Engineering Design) for a methanation pilot plant and a comprehensive concept study for a future commercial-scale facility. This partnership underscores Oman LNG's ongoing commitment to innovation and sustainable energy development, in line with Oman Vision 2040 and the National

Green Hydrogen Strategy. Hamad Al Naamany, CEO of Oman LNG, commented: "This initiative is turning a challenge into an opportunity, using our carbon dioxide waste stream to produce synthetic methane. This cutting-edge technology in carbon capture and utilization pushes the boundaries of catalyst technology and integration into LNG processes. As we embark on this prospect,



we are not only reinforcing Oman LNG's sustainability vision, but also contributing to Oman's ambition to become a global player in green energy. Synthetic methane could be a commercially competitive means to transport green hydrogen by leveraging the LNG

infrastructure already in place. We also place significant importance on Oman's participation in the research and development associated with this advanced approach, to help achieve the net-zero objectives that many are committed to. Our collaboration with Kanadevia

reflects our determination to deliver practical, scalable solutions for a net-zero future."

The project will help Oman reach its goal of net-zero emissions by 2050 through pioneering technologies like carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) and methanation, which combines captured CO₂ with green hydrogen to create a clean fuel called e-methane.

The future commercial-scale facility aims to produce e-methane at 18,000 normal cubic meters per hour. The Concept Study will cover technical and commercial evaluations, while the Pre-FEED will focus on the pilot plant, which is designed to produce 1,200 normal cubic meters of e-methane per hour as an initial step toward full-scale deployment.

The pilot plant will feature three main components: A seawater desalination unit, Equipment to pro-

duce hydrogen via water electrolysis and A methanation system that combines hydrogen with captured CO₂ to produce e-methane.

During the Pre-FEED phase, the project will conduct detailed design studies and cost estimations for engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC).

Kanadevia brings global expertise through its subsidiaries, including Osmoflo Holdings in Australia and Kanadevia Inova AG in Switzerland, making them a strong partner for this project.

This agreement follows the Memorandum of Understanding signed in March 2024 and aligns with broader cooperation between the governments of Oman and Japan in hydrogen, fuel ammonia, and carbon recycling. It reflects both countries' shared commitment to reducing emissions and building a cleaner energy future. - **ONA**

SME GROWTH



OAB concludes SME training roadshow in Nizwa

MUSCAT: Oman Arab Bank (OAB) has successfully concluded the third leg of its SME Development Training Roadshow, held in Nizwa from 17 to 18 June.

Organised in collaboration with SME Development Authority and Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Nizwa, under the Bank's flagship Tumouhi initiative, the event drew wide participation from aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners in Al Dakhiliyah, continuing a nationwide mission to support and empower Oman's growing SME sector. The event was held under the auspices of Sheikh Dr. Faisal bin Ali bin Rashid Al Zidi (Wali of Manah).

Following successful workshops in Muscat and Sohar earlier this year, the Nizwa event brought together a dynamic mix of sessions covering financial literacy, business strategy, marketing, and HR fundamentals. Designed to offer hands-on learning and real-world insights, the two-day workshop also served as a vibrant networking hub for local entrepreneurs and industry experts.

Al Zidi expressed his enthusiasm towards this initiative in supporting the SME sector, praising the government's steadfast approach and the great attention it pays to this vital sector, given its pivotal role in supporting the growth of the economy and enhancing its diversity. He emphasized that supporting entrepreneurs and emerging business owners contributes to creating new job opportunities

and enhancing local innovation. Al Zidi stated, "This workshop is a true turning point for entrepreneurs. They would walk in with ideas, and leave with a plan, equipped with the confidence to take their businesses to the next level. The sessions were practical, relevant, and exactly what small business owners and entrepreneurs would need."

Sulaiman Al Hinai, Chief Wholesale Banking Officer at Oman Arab Bank, commented on the roadshow's continued momentum, "At Oman Arab Bank, we view SMEs as key drivers of economic resilience and innovation. Through Tumouhi, we're not just delivering training — we're creating access, building networks, and empowering business owners in every corner of the Sultanate. The response in Nizwa has been incredibly encouraging, and we remain committed to reaching even more regions with the tools and support SMEs need to thrive."

The Tumouhi Roadshow is part of OAB's long-term strategy to promote financial inclusion, empower local talent, and align with the goals of Oman Vision 2040. By providing practical tools and strategic guidance, OAB aims to equip SMEs with the foundations to grow, innovate, and contribute meaningfully to the national economy. The bank has confirmed that future roadshows are in the pipeline, with a commitment to covering all regions across Oman in the months ahead.

CONCESSION AGREEMENT

Agreement inked for natural salt production in concession area I-51 in Al Wusta

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Energy and Minerals signed a mining concession agreement with the Global Integrated Engineering Company for Concession Area "I-51" in Al Wusta Governorate. The project has an estimated production capacity of 1.2 million tons annually, covering an area of 15 square kilometres.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the government of the Sultanate of Oman by Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, and on behalf of the Company by Ali Salim Al Junaibi, Chairman of the company's Board of Directors.

The agreement aims to increase the production capacity of salt compounds from the existing plant and establish additional facilities to boost natural salt output. The process involves extracting salt from the area by constructing seawater storage ponds, allowing natural evaporation through wind and solar heat, followed by drying, refining, purifying, and packaging the salt. The expected investment value is OMR200 million.

Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, emphasized that this project represents a significant strategic step that will effectively contribute to advancing economic diversification in Oman. He added that the project is expected to generate numerous job opportunities for Omani citizens.

He noted that the primary objective is to enhance natural salt



production and develop its industrial derivatives for use in diverse projects that support sustainable development. He further highlighted that this project is the third of its kind for sea salt production in Oman, reflecting the ministry's efforts to promote local industries, maximize the utilization of natural resources, and reduce reliance on imported products.

For his part, Ali Salim Al Junaibi stated that securing the concession rights for Area I-51 in Al

Wusta Governorate will increase the plant's production capacity to one million tons annually. This is expected to meet the needs of the local market and emerging downstream industries currently under development as part of the economic projects under "Oman Vision 2040."

He added that the company will produce multiple salt derivatives required by both local and global markets, particularly those used in food processing, animal feed, and

pharmaceutical industries. He explained that this agreement reinforces the government's approach toward localizing industries, optimizing natural resource utilization, and reducing dependence on imported products.

This will enhance the performance of the national economy and generate diverse employment opportunities for Omani professionals, as well as subcontracting prospects for small and medium enterprises. - **ONA**

NEW SERVICE

Water bill payments in Dhofar now available through Khedmah channels

MUSCAT: As part of a new step toward developing its operations, Oman Investment and Finance Company (Khedmah) has announced the expansion of its offerings in Dhofar Governorate to include the collection of water bill payments for Nama Dhofar Services' customers.

This new service allows valued customers in the governorate to conveniently settle all their bills from a single point, saving both time and effort. Customers can now complete their water bill payments at all Khedmah branches, as well as through digital payment channels such as the Khedmah app, the company's website, and self-service kiosks.

Commenting on the announcement, Mr. Ali bin Ahmed bin Hafeez Ba Omar, Regional Manager of Khedmah in Dhofar Governorate, said: "We are pleased with this partnership with Nama Dhofar Services and appreciate their trust and cooperation in all that contributes to enhancing the cus-



tomer experience. This step offers our valued customers a more convenient experience by enabling them to pay their bills in one place. As is well known, our services include the payment of electricity, telecommunications and internet bills, traffic fines, and Social Protection Fund contributions, among many others. Therefore, adding water bill payment services for residents of Dhofar Governorate

will further strengthen their confidence in the services we offer, while also saving them time and effort. This also reflects our ongoing commitment to improving the customer experience and meeting their expectations."

The new service offers several key benefits, most notably – 24/7 payment availability, secure and flexible transactions, a unified platform covering a wide range of essential services, direct support through a dedicated call center, and a convenient customer experience at Khedmah branches in Dhofar Governorate, currently located in Salalah, Taqah, and Mirbat.

Khedmah emphasized that this expansion represents a significant milestone in enhancing the customer experience and reflects its steadfast commitment to serving communities across the Sultanate by providing reliable digital solutions that simplify everyday life. The company also encouraged users to download the Khedmah app and explore its wide range of fea-

tures, inviting the public to share their feedback and suggestions for additional services they would like to see in the future.

With this step, Khedmah reinforces its position as a leading provider of financial and technology services in the nation, continuing to advance its mission of simplifying daily payments for all segments of Omani society.

It is worth noting that Oman Investment and Finance Company (OIFC) Khedmah has been a leader in billing and collection services in the Sultanate of Oman for over 40 years. The company provides a central hub for customers to pay various bills, including electricity, water, communications, traffic fines, vehicle insurance, entertainment channel subscriptions, charity donations, and many other services. These services are available through the company's widespread branch network, covering most regions in Oman, as well as its electronic platforms, including the Khedmah app and website.

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

OIFC, up 13.16%, was the top gainer while Oman Qatar Insurance, down 9.68%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,525.31 points, up by 0.42% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.49% at 431.66 points. OIFC, up 13.16%, was the top gainer while Oman Qatar Insurance, down 9.68%, was the top loser. Shares of OQBI were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1749 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 12.06 million, with more than 76.21 million shares changing hands.

Out of 52 traded securities, 14 advanced, 18 declined, and 20 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 598K while foreign investors were net sellers for RO 371K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 227K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,837.48 points, down 0.02%. Prices of Oman & Emirates Investment, Sohar International

Bank, Bank Nizwa, and Bank Muscat were up by 1.45%, 1.43%, 1.01%, and 0.37% respectively. Prices of Oman Qatar Insurance, Oman United Insurance, Muscat Finance, Al Madina Takaful, and Al Anwar Investment were down by 9.68%, 4.35%, 1.96%, 1.24%, and 1.18% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6,294.33 points, up 0.24%. Prices of Al Anwar Ceramics, Voltamp Energy, and Oman Chlorine were up by 3.03%, 0.75%, and 0.33% respectively. Prices of Galfar Engineering, and Al Maha Ceramics were down by 1.52%, and 1.44% respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.23% before closing at 1,595.93 points. Prices of OIFC, Shell Oman Marketing, and OQ Gas Networks were up by 13.16%, 2.61%, and 2.58% respectively. Prices of Barka Water & Power Company, Phoenix Power, Al Batinah Power, Abraj Energy, and Ooredoo were down by 1.54%, 1.45%, 1.41%, 1.23%, and 0.98% respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,532.35	4,478.83	4,525.31	4,506.50	18.81	0.42
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,865.65	7,804.63	7,837.48	7,838.85	-1.37	-0.02
Industry Index	6,300.95	6,208.59	6,294.33	6,279.27	15.06	0.24
Services Index	1,600.16	1,589.01	1,595.93	1,599.58	-3.65	-0.23
MSX Shariah Index	431.66	423.87	431.66	429.54	2.11	0.49
MSX TR INDEX	6,702.22	6,623.09	6,691.82	6,664.00	27.82	0.42
FINANCIAL TR IDX	9,321.78	9,249.46	9,288.39	9,290.01	-1.62	-0.02
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	7,742.92	7,629.42	7,734.79	7,716.28	18.51	0.24
SERVICES TR IDX	2,040.59	2,026.38	2,035.20	2,039.85	-4.65	-0.23
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,204.48	1,204.48	1,204.48	1,204.48	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	12,055,664	Turnover	1,749	Trades	28,294,257,191	Up	14	Down	18	Equal	20	Sec. Traded	52
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SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 22

ISINSECURITY NAMEVOLUMETURNOVERTRADESOPEN PRICEHIGHLOWCLOSE PRPREV. CLOSEDIFF (R)DIFF %LAST PRLAST BIDLAST OFFERPREV. VALUEMARKET CAP

REGULAR MARKET

OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	601,270	97,744	57	0.163	0.170	0.158	0.170	0.165	0.005	3.030	0.170	0.165	0.169	0.100	37,400,000
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	10,064,690	1,569,942	275	0.153	0.159	0.153	0.159	0.155	0.004	2.581	0.159	0.159	0.159	0.100	688,569,203
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	13,753,783	1,939,960	129	0.138	0.142	0.138	0.142	0.140	0.002	1.429	0.142	0.142	0.142	0.100	939,648,970
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	562,143	55,704	14	0.099	0.102	0.099	0.100	0.099	0.001	1.010	0.100	0.098	0.100	0.100	223,695,303
OM0000003681	VOLTAMP ENERGY	14,396	9,637	15	0.060	0.070	0.060	0.070	0.065	0.005	0.752	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	62,720,819
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	4,504,659	1,234,596	87	0.270	0.278	0.270	0.274	0.273	0.001	0.596	0.274	0.280	0.274	0.100	2,056,752,795
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	5,000	1,875	1	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.000	0.000	0.375	0.350	0.375	0.100	46,836,735
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	67,450	11,302	11	0.169	0.170	0.167	0.170	0.170	0.000	0.000	0.170	0.170	0.178	0.100	7,283,308
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	133,400	7,871	6	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.000	0.000	0.059	0.057	0.063	0.100	21,011,511
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	100	97	1	0.374	0.374	0.374	0.374	0.374	0.000	0.000	0.374	0.368	0.374	0.100	44,880,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	254,448	214,024	34	0.840	0.842	0.840	0.842	0.842	0.000	0.000	0.842	0.842	0.842	0.100	631,500,444
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	147,500	10,331	7	0.070	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.071	0.100	50,008,444
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	84,977	23,178	18	0.272	0.274	0.272	0.272	0.274	-0.002	-0.730	0.272	0.271	0.272	0.100	64,303,520
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	77,996	17,042	17	0.219	0.220	0.217	0.218	0.220	-0.002	-0.909	0.218	0.218	0.218	0.100	203,985,128
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	442,464	46,035	15	0.105	0.105	0.104	0.104	0.105	-0.001	-0.952	0.104	0.104	0.106	0.100	20,800,000
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	134,480	26,902	18	0.199	0.203	0.199	0.202	0.204	-0.002	-0.980	0.202	0.202	0.218	0.100	131,490,734
OM0000008934	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	4,640,572	1,116,915	139	0.241	0.243	0.239	0.241	0.244	-0.003	-1.230	0.241	0.241	0.250	0.100	185,618,200
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	499,294	39,944	3	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.080	0.080	0.081	0.100	14,000,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	153,461	10,881	12	0.072	0.072	0.070	0.070	0.071	-0.001	-1.408	0.070	0.070	0.071	0.100	47,242,130
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	20,000	4,416	6	0.224	0.224	0.220	0.220	0.230	-0.010	-4.348	0.220	0.221	0.228	0.100	22,000,000
Total	20	36,151,992	6,438,287	865												

Parallel Market

OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	43,792	3,591	6	0.082	0.083	0.082	0.083	0.079	0.004	5.063	0.083	0.080	0.086	0.100	53,832,996
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	3,000	1,650	1	0.550	0.550	0.550	0.550	0.536	0.014	2.612	0.550	0.000	0.550	0.100	52,250,000
OM0000009098	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFD)	21,065,885	2,602,871	341	0.122	0.126	0.121	0.124	0.122	0.002	1.639	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.000	428,976,865
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	165,910	11,614	11	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.069	0.001	1.449	0.070	0.067	0.070	0.100	853,125,250
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	3,484,277	1,126,306	262	0.321	0.327	0.319	0.326	0.322	0.004	1.242	0.326	0.326	0.326	0.000	608,000,000
OM0000002341	OMAN CHLORINE	10,000	3,000	1	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.299	0.001	0.334	0.300	0.270	0.300	0.100	21,452,652
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	60,000	5,040	10	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.100	7,140,000
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	1,000	460	1	0.460	0.460	0.460	0.460	0.460	0.000	0.000	0.460	0.462	0.470	0.100	76,072,500
OM0000001806	MUSCAT INSURANCE	216	150	1	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.000	0.600	0.000	0.600	0.100	6,615,028
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	190,287	13,327	9	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.069	0.071	0.100	1,491,000
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	32,000	6,560	3	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.000	0.000	0.205	0.204	0.205	0.100	40,925,288
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	57,028	2,534	5	0.044	0.045	0.044	0.045	0.045	0.000	0.000	0.045	0.043	0.045	0.100	11,250,000
OM0000008689	THE PEARL REIP	13,243	1,533	1	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.000	0.000	0.116	0.114	0.120	0.100	68,696,678
OM0000001020	ASYAD SHIPPING	12,626,566	1,553,850	104	0.122	0.124	0.122	0.124	0.124	0.000	0.000	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.000	645,884,291
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	2,055	300	1	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.146	0.147	-0.001	-0.680	0.146	0.140	0.146	0.100	243,733,860
OM0000009569	JABAL REIF	2,000	200	1	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.101	-0.001	-0.990	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	17,400,000
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	630	56	2	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.089	0.090	-0.001	-1.111	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.100	17,800,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	342,359	28,723	22	0.084	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.085	-0.001	-1.176	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.100	24,113,891
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	115,892	30,635	36	0.270	0.273	0.250	0.273	0.277	-0.004	-1.444	0.273	0.269	0.274	0.100	15,015,000
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,289,565	87,693	14	0.069	0.069	0.068	0.068	0.069	-0.001	-1.449	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.100	99,456,899
OM0000003141	BARKA WATER AND POWER	5,695	1,098	3	0.193	0.193	0.192	0.192	0.195	-0.003	-1.538	0.192	0.176	0.192	0.100	30,720,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	150,900	7,545	10	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.051	-0.001	-1.961	0.050	0.050	0.051	0.100	15,357,316
OM0000009979	OMAN QATAR INSURANCE	5,000	980	1	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.196	0.217	-0.021	-9.677	0.196	0.198	0.212	0.100	31,598,840
Total	29	39,607,220	5,488,695	846												

Meethaq Sharia Supervisory Board approves reports

MUSCAT: The Sharia Supervisory Board (SSB) of Meethaq Islamic Banking from Bank Muscat held its second meeting for 2025 at the bank's head



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Dynamic professional with 16+ years of progressive experience in Financial Strategy, Business Consulting, Operational Excellence, and Growth Leadership across Civil Construction, RMC Production, and MNCs. Open to strategic senior management opportunities.

Contact: 97403883 / 92022786. Email: gm.seekers.2025@gmail.com

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Heavy duty Diesel Mechanic with engine, transmission overhauling and R&M including hydraulic heavy earth moving equipment, trucks and cranes etc. Urgently required in Nizwa.

Please contact: **+968 99328995**
satheeshkr35@gmail.com

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International Rose LLC.
Contact: +968 92886065. Email: sujith.internationalroselle@gmail.com

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Contact/WA: +968-95877725

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NOTICE

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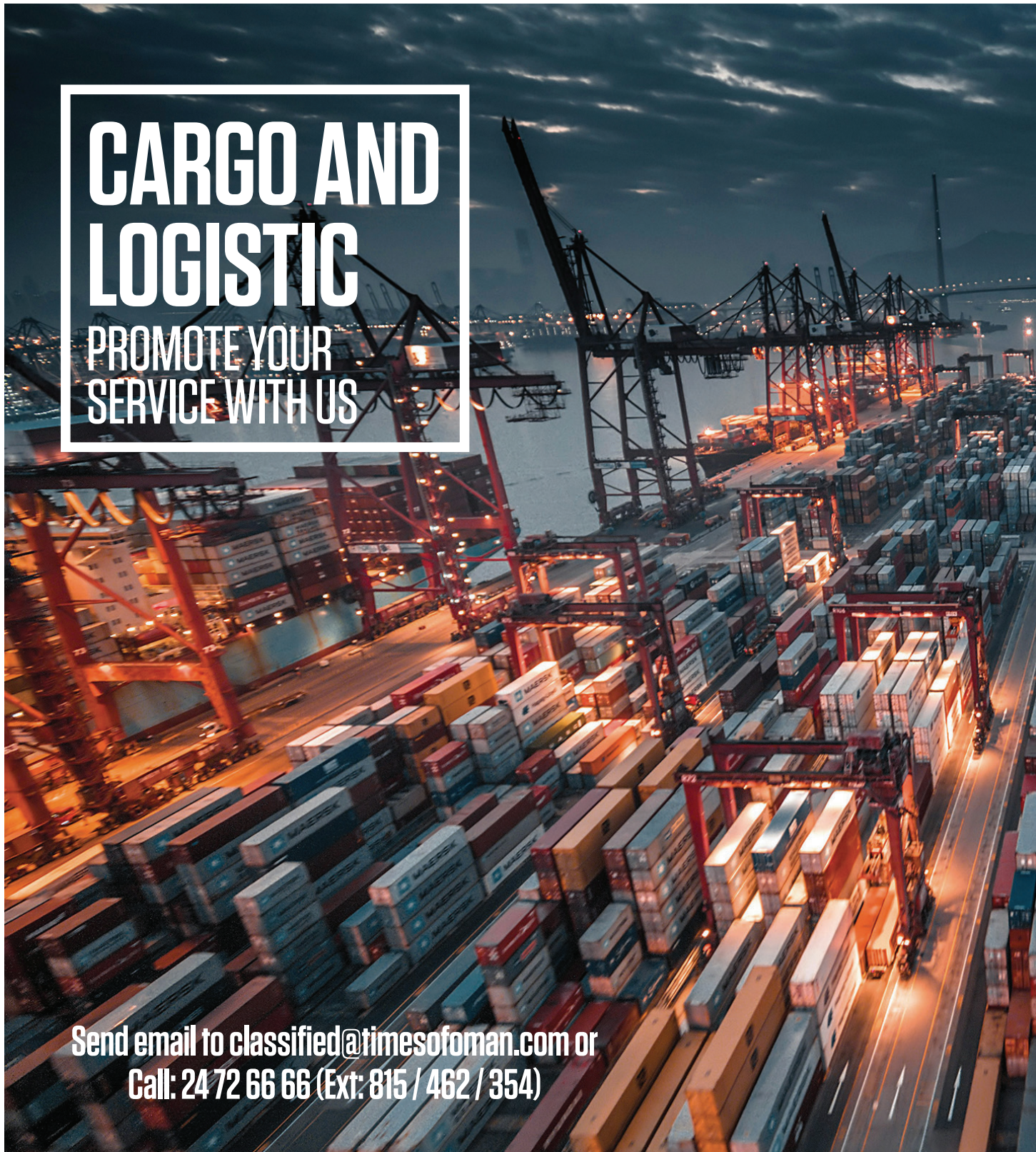
Al Seeb Technical Est. SARCO wishes to inform all its customers that a number of "SAMSUNG" Home Appliances, Consumer Electronics, Mobile Phone, Office Equipments and it products sent for repair / repair estimates to our service centres at Azaiba, Avenue Mall, Ghala, Sohar and Salalah before 31.05.2025 have not been collected so far.

Customers are hearby informed that all such items must be collected within one month from the date of this announcement and on submission of the official repair slip.

Sets not collected during the notice period ending 20.07.2025 will be disposed off and the company will not accept any claim whatsoever in this regards.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Kubra Nihal Khan** (holder of Indian Passport Number: N4169400) daughter of Abdul Razzak Shaikh having permanent residence in SAGAR PALACE B - WING 1ST FLR FLT NO 103 KADAR PALACE M H M ROAD KAUSA MUMBRA THANE, PIN: 400612, Maharashtra, India and presently residing in Salalah, Dhofar, Sultanate of Oman, intend to change my name from **Kubra Nihal Khan (old name)** to **Kubra Abdul Razzak Shaikh (new name)** for all practical purpose. Any objection towards my name change may please be communicated to Embassy of India, Muscat, P.O.Box No.1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi Sultanate of Oman.



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JOB VACANCY

MISCELLENOUS

Urgently required (3-5 years experience Civil Site Engineer (Industrial work experience),draftsman civil foreman Email: shioldint7878@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Group Finance Manager, Indian 26 yrs of experience, looking job change. Contact: 78399621

Sri Lankan accountant having 7 yrs of experience available for immediate join. Contact: 97092478

Indian female accountant. MBA Finance. 9+yrs experience in and out Oman. Contact: 95756987.

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

B.Com, Diploma in accounts, currently pursuing M.Com (final semester), with 1 yrs of hands-on experience in accounting up to finalization. Proficient in handling day-to-day accounts, reconciliations, and financial reporting. Currently in Muscat and available for immediate joining. Contact: 95998225 Email: sauravkiran3@gmail.com

Accountant with CMA (USA) qualification and 2 yrs of experience in accounts payable, receivables, financial reporting, budgeting, and bank & cash reconciliation. Actively looking for new opportunities in Muscat. Contact: +968 71048654 Email: mubeenmahamoodcma@gmail.com

Experienced part-time accountant with book keeping, finalization, VAT,tax filing. Contact: 79102100

Indian male, MBA in finance, with 14 yrs of accounting experience including UAE & Oman (holding a valid Oman D/L). Seeking a suitable position, Can join immediately. Contact: 79994125 Email: rejinrajamben@gmail.com

Accountant (Indian) with D/L 8 yrs experience, can join immediately. Contact: 95273377

Senior Accountant, Indian having D/L fully independent up to closing, audit taxation Vat return, with 11 yrs Oman experience , Ready to join as Sr. Accountant and finance or Asst. manager accounts and finance. Contact: 94375581 Email: Oman.muscat8080@gmail.com

Indian male Bachelor degree in Commerce (CA) looking for a suitable job with 1 yr experience in accounts,finance Currently in Oman with family visa & Omani D/L. Can join immediately. Contact: +96876469134 Email: shemantk32@gmail.com

Pakistani male with experience of 12 yrs (5 yrs in Oman) in finance,accounts seeks job. Have Oman D/L also. Contact 78363317 E-mail bilalattariacca@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Senior accountant, Accounts manager ACCA, CA Inter, MS finance. 12 yrs gulf experience. Ready to join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 77258382.

Indian male Bachelor degree in Commerce (CA) looking for a suitable job with 1 yr experience in accounts, finance Currently in Oman with family visa & Omani D/L. Can join immediately Contact:+96876469134 Email:shemantk32@gmail.com

Accounts, finance, a well experienced Indian male [MBA Fin] having more than 19 yrs of experience in Oman, looking for suitable placement. Contact: 92076716

Indian male, accountant, M.Com (finance) 12 years experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization and business development. NOC & D/L available Contact: 99859141

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

Indian, MBA dual specialization (finance and business analytics) and SAP FICO in Oman looking for immediate openings. Contact: +968 7859 6850. Email: rahulgnair31@gmail.com

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

ADMINISTRATION

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

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

Experienced Indian male with 23+yrs of experience in various fields,looking for suitable position in admin, operation, store, sales. Contact: 78645911

Indian Male have 10 yrs experience in Oman as supervisor, have valid D/L and NOC. Contact: 90789282.

Canadian citizen with 10 yrs experience in customer service and 2 yrs as purchasing agent,buyer. Seeking a job in Oman to relocate. Available for interviews. Contact: 99492403. Email: batool.drizvi@gmail.com

Secretary with 20 yrs of experience in India and Oman looking for a job. NOC available. Contact: 97932277.

ADMINISTRATION

Indian (M), excellent English, Oman experience in corporate communications, project administration, CEO office, operations. Contact: 99283938

ARCHITECT

Architect, Urban planner with experience in various design software .Looking for architect planner job. Contact : 96577109, E-mail: ar.silpa011@gmail.com

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

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

DRIVER

Indian male, having valid Oman D/L. with 04 yrs of driving experience in the Gulf. Looking for a suitable driver job. Contact: 94589573

Looking at driving job. Contact: 78514001

Looking for driving job. Contact: 99667817

Looking light driving job. Contact 96091045

Looking for driving job. Contact: 95215679

Looking for driving job with 8 yrs experience. Contact: 79453897

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

Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920

Looking for driving job. Contact: +968 99532361

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

DESIGNER/ AUTOCAD D/MAN

20 yrs. exp Sr. Draughtsman sewer buildings & roads looking for job. Contact: 76283837

Interior designer (3D rendering, shop drawings, site supervision, showroom sales & marketing) with 15+yrs of experience in a reputed furnishing company in Oman. D/L Contact: 95060377

Draughtsman Indian, consultancy & construction experience (Arch, civil, infra). Looking job. Contact: 98724049, 78137495

LOGISTICS

Storekeeper with experience of 13 yrs in Oman, construction and manufacturing company. Looking for suitable placement. Contact:96785379. Email: msudhilal@yahoo.com

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Senior Civil engineer BTech with 32 yrs experience (24 yrs in Oman), specialized in project execution, quantity surveying, contract management, tendering, variations, claims settlement, and final account preparation. Available for immediate joining. Muscat-based roles preferred. Contact: 95809622

9.5 yrs (Muscat) experienced engineer - HVAC & MEP projects, FM & maintenance, seeking for job in Salalah. Contact: +968 92345891)

Senior MEP Engineer 20+ yrs exp in design, supervision & execution. Available with NOC & D/L. Contact: 99148940, jobluk.om@gmail.com

Site Engineer (civil) Indian 5 yrs experience GCC, can join immediately. Contact: 78462634

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

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

MEP, Electrical Engineer 20+ yrs of exp. in Oman and GCC, expert in design, supervision & execution in consultant, contractor. Oil & gas, industrial, building with Oman D/L. Contact: 99148940. Email: jobluk.om@gmail.com.

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

Indian, male experienced Mechanical Engineer (4+ yrs Muscat) expert in customer service, marine/automotive repair, PDI inspections. Seeking a challenging role in sales or service departments. Contact: 92957063. Email: farzinferoz19@gmail.com.

HSE professional with 13+ yrs of experience in Oman's oil & gas, IPP, and IWP sectors. IOSH, NEBOSH, first aider, firefighter, working at height, and permit to work certified. Valid license and visa. Contact: 90499887 Email:sheikhnabeel84@gmail.com

Tendering & proposal specialist (Civil & MEP) proposal preparation, accurate quantity take-off and estimation. available on contract basis. Cont 76612255, Email: bm.enggg008@gmail.com

Indian Engineer, +Nebosh IGC and IT knowledge with D/L. 2 yrs experience in Oman looking for job and currently in Oman. Contact : 79860144

MEP estimation engineer, quantity surveyor,11 yrs Oman experience,Indian male. Contact: 99462978. Email: anwar.anwar1986@gmail.com

Electronics and Communication Engineer with AutoCAD experience Contact: 76622441. Email: fatinkisho10@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Indian male, automobile engineer, 10 yrs experience in dealership workshop operations and supervision, seeking job opportunity. Contact +968 78406449.

Civil Engineer with D/L, 10 yrs experience in Oman. Contact: 97993078

Indian male (Mechanical Engineer) with Oman experience in Oil & Gas, BDM, procurement, logistic, inventory management & operations. Ready to join immediately. NOC & D/L available. Contact: 99189094. Email: ben.sdbmct@gmail.com

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Specialist in swimming instruction and rescue techniques seeking an immediate opportunity Contact: 95975375, 94676186

PhD in Chemistry with B.Ed. seeking roles in lecturing,post doc,research & development or QC. Experienced and available. Contact: 76423455, 78283248

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

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

TOUR/TRAVELS

Looking for a job as a air ticketing, reservation agent and office administration. Contact: 99080348. Email: reemadanthys80@gmail.com

IT

Female software Engineer full stack developer also expert in digital marketing with 5 yrs experience. Contact: 78462153

PROCUREMENT/ PURCHASE

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp: 0096895839964

Indian male (29 yrs) 2 yrs experience as Sales consultant, 4 yrs and 10 mts as Sr. Trainer in retail. Looking for suitable placement and currently in Oman. Contact: 94559796.

MANAGER

Experienced food processing officer with over 2 yrs of proven expertise looking for suitable roles. Quality control, hygiene officer. Contact:79150220, Email: jagath.sivanandan@gmail.com

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

MEDICAL

Dentist, insurance coordinator Muscat, BDS, 4 yrs experience, viva & prometric cleared. Seeking full-time role as Dentist or insurance coordinator. +968-77275222 | Available immediately.

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

SALES/MARKETING

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

MBA 20 years experienced in sales and marketing, working with reputed group looking suitable placement. 78564880

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

MBA HR & Marketing, Indian female, knowledge of MS office, Looking for suitable job, Currently in Oman. Contact: 72851131, Email: teenavenal01@gmail.com

Male 25+ yrs experience in sales (industrial) , looking for a suitable position with valid D/L. Available for immediate joining. 78569329

Looking for jobs in Sales and marketing, customer care and relevant field. 10+yrs of experience in SriLanka and Canada. Contact: +968 7646 3371.

Indian male with vast experience in sales marketing and business development,currentlly residing in Muscat looking for a favourable placement. Contact: 97220369 Email: kazinaved77@gmail.com

Indian male (29 yrs) 2 yrs experience as Sales consultant, 4 yrs and 10 mts as Sr. Trainer in retail. Looking for suitable placement and currently in Oman. Contact: 94559796.

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Apple expands Audio Mix feature

WITH THE UPCOMING IOS 26 UPDATE, APPLE IS SET TO REVOLUTIONISE THE WAY USERS EDIT AUDIO IN VIDEOS ON THEIR IPHONE 16 MODELS. ACCORDING TO MAC RUMOURS, THE TECH GIANT IS EXPANDING ITS INNOVATIVE AUDIO MIX FEATURE, POWERED BY MACHINE LEARNING, BEYOND THE PHOTOS APP TO THIRD-PARTY APPLICATIONS.

AUDIO MIX OFFERS FOUR PRIMARY OPTIONS FOR EDITING AUDIO IN VIDEOS:
STANDARD: PLAYS THE ORIGINAL AUDIO RECORDED.

IN-FRAME: REDUCES SOUNDS AND VOICES FROM SOURCES NOT VISIBLE IN THE VIDEO FRAME.

STUDIO: MINIMISES BACKGROUND SOUNDS AND REVERB, CREATING A PROFESSIONAL STUDIO-LIKE EFFECT.

CINEMATIC: PLACES VOICES ON A FRONT-FACING TRACK AND ENVIRONMENTAL NOISES IN SURROUND, SIMILAR TO MOVIE AUDIO.

WITH IOS 26, APPLE IS INTRODUCING ADDITIONAL AUDIO MIX OPTIONS FOR BACKGROUND NOISE.

TO UTILISE THIS FEATURE, VIDEOS MUST BE RECORDED WITH SPATIAL AUDIO, WHICH IS AUTOMATICALLY ENABLED ON ALL IPHONE 16 MODELS WHEN RECORDING VIDEO.

USERS CAN ADJUST THIS SETTING IN THE CAMERA SECTION OF THE SETTINGS APP.

THE INTRODUCTION OF AUDIO MIX IN THIRD-PARTY APPS WILL SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE THE AUDIO EDITING CAPABILITIES OF THESE APPLICATIONS.

DEVELOPERS CAN NOW LEVERAGE APPLE'S MACHINE LEARNING-POWERED AUDIO MIX TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE USERS WITH MORE ADVANCED AUDIO EDITING TOOLS.

IN ADDITION TO IOS 26, APPLE IS ALSO BRINGING AUDIO MIX CONTROLS TO THIRD-PARTY MAC APPS WITH MACOS TAOHE.

THIS MOVE WILL ENABLE MAC USERS TO ENJOY THE SAME ADVANCED AUDIO EDITING CAPABILITIES AS IPHONE USERS.

APPLE IS ALSO ENHANCING AUDIO-ONLY APPS LIKE VOICE MEMOS BY ALLOWING THEM TO SAVE AUDIO IN THE QUICKTIME AUDIO FORMAT QTA.

THIS FORMAT SUPPORTS MULTIPLE AUDIO TRACKS WITH ALTERNATE TRACK GROUPS, SIMILAR TO SPATIAL AUDIO FILES. - ANI

beyond Photos App with iOS 26

SPORTS

Inter leave it late; Dortmund and Fluminense slam four

River Plate were held to a goalless draw by Monterrey in the FIFA Club World Cup on Saturday

NEW YORK: Fluminense, Inter Milan and Borussia Dortmund all recorded crucial wins on Saturday at the FIFA Club World Cup (CWC), while River Plate were held to a goalless draw by Monterrey. At the MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, Brazil's Fluminense recovered from 2-1 down to beat South Korean side Ulsan 4-2. Colombian midfielder Jhon Arias opened the scoring for Fluminense with a fizzing 25-yard free-kick but Lee Jin-hyun equalised from a tight angle after Um Won-sang's cross. Lee returned the favour as his pass from the left wing allowed Um to score with a diving header just before halftime. Gustavo Nunato levelled with a low finish after intercepting Milosz Trojak's clearance and Juan Pablo Freytes made it 3-2 by slotting home from the edge of the six-yard box. Keno put the result beyond doubt for the Brazilian club with a looping stoppage-time header following Arias' cross. Fluminense are now top of Group F with four points, ahead of Borussia Dortmund on goal difference. Ulsan are last and have no chance of progressing. "We lost our focus at the end of



the first half and they made us pay," Fluminense manager Renato Gaucho told reporters. "We came back with a differ-

ent attitude in the second half and the win gives us peace of mind. Tomorrow we'll start thinking about the last match [against Ma-

melodi Sundowns], which we need to win." In Seattle, Lautaro Martinez and Valentin Carboni scored for Inter Milan as the Italian side rallied late to overcome Japan's Urawa Red Diamonds 2-1. Ryoma Watanabe gave the J1 League outfit an early lead by sweeping home from 10 yards after Takuro Kaneko's clever run and cross from the right flank. It took until the 78th minute for Inter to equalize as Martinez struck with an acrobatic volley following Nicolo Barella's corner. The Serie A club suddenly had the momentum and Carboni gave his side the lead in the 92nd minute by pouncing on a loose ball and drilling a low effort past Shusaku Nishikawa. "The result is almost second-



ary," Carboni said. "It was difficult out there. They defended in a very compact fashion and we had few opportunities. But we have the three points, and it is important to move on." The victory leaves Inter second in Group E with four points while Urawa are last and cannot qualify for the knockout stage. In Cincinnati, Germany's Borussia Dortmund stayed in contention for a place in the last 16 with a 4-3 win over South African side Mamelodi Sundowns. Lucas Ribeiro, Iqraam Rayners and Lebo Mothiba were on target for the Pretoria-based side while Felix Nmecha, Serhou Guirassy and Jobe Bellingham scored for the Bundesliga outfit, which also benefitted from a Khuliso Mudau own goal. Borussia Dortmund are now second in Group F with four points, one ahead of third-placed Mamelodi. "I was expecting more, to be honest," Borussia Dortmund boss

Niko Kovac said. "We gave the ball away too easily and played too slowly. On the positive side, we scored four goals. We're satisfied with the result given the difficult conditions. As a top team, you have to aim to score plenty of goals, but you also can't afford to concede so many. That annoys me, but I try to stay pragmatic." In Saturday's late match, Argentina's River Plate drew 0-0 with Mexican side Monterrey at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. River Plate looked more likely to score but could not find a way past Monterrey's Argentine goalkeeper Esteban Andrada, who made six saves. The Buenos Aires outfit finished the match with 10 men after Colombian midfielder Kevin Castano was sent off for a second bookable offence. River remain top of Group E with four points, ahead of Inter Milan on goal difference, while Monterrey are third, two points further back. - Xinhua

MANCHESTER CITY

CWC trophy won't make up for last season: Guardiola

NEW YORK: Winning the FIFA Club World Cup (CWC) won't make amends for Manchester City's disappointment of last season, manager Pep Guardiola said on Saturday. City failed to win a major trophy for the first time in eight years but claimed the Community Shield at the beginning of the campaign. City finished third in the Premier League, failed to reach the last 16 in the Champions League and were stunned in the FA Cup final by Crystal Palace. Along with Chelsea, City are one of two English sides currently competing at the revamped CWC. They began Group G with victory over Moroccan side Wydad AC and another three points against UAE club Al Ain in Atlanta will seal progression to the last 16. "I said many times, the season was not good," said Guardiola. "When you finish third in the Premier League to qualify for the Champions League, it means 70 teams were worse than us.



"We played the FA Cup final at an incredibly high level against a really good team. The disappointment was the Champions League, we did not do really good. It was tough to handle it. "Winning this competition is not going to change that but my mindset at the moment is not about winning the competition. We can extend our time here, being here longer. For the South American teams, the competition may be the maximum. For European teams, it is [just] a World Cup." Guardiola won this competition in its previous guise with

Barcelona and led City to success by thrashing Fluminense 4-0 in Saudi Arabia two years ago. "I was lucky to play as a manager in this competition four times and we won four times," said the Spaniard. "What would happen in Brazil is they would have a carnival for one week, dancing and celebrating, but it is cultural for the continent and countries. "Now we are here, I want to do the best, I want to enjoy the moment here because you are here one time every four years and I want to do well and I want to arrive in the latter stages." - Agencies

FOOTBALL

Assaulting referees could lead to prison time in Italy



MILAN: Those who commit acts of violence against match officials in Italy could now be sentenced to time in prison. The Italian government modified its penal code recently to give match officials the same legal protection as police officers and other public officials. The law change, which followed a rise in cases of assault against referees, means perpetrators could face much tougher penalties for pushing, hitting or threatening match officials. "Sport is loyalty and sharing. Those who do not accept it are warned: from tomorrow violent behaviour and aggression against referees will be punished without delay, even with prison," said junior justice minister Andrea Ostellari.

FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP



'Mbappe could return in last group game'

NEW YORK: Real Madrid manager Xabi Alonso said on Saturday that striker Kylian Mbappe is "better" after an illness and, while he will miss his side's FIFA Club World Cup match against Pachuca on Sunday, he could return for their final group game. Mbappe was absent from training on Tuesday with a fever and missed his side's 1-1 draw against Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal in Miami on Wednesday. The 26-year-old was admitted to hospital with what Real

described as an "acute case of gastroenteritis" before being released on Thursday and returning to the La Liga club's training complex in Palm Beach. He has not travelled with his team-mates for Real Madrid's games against Mexican side Pachuca on Sunday but could make his first appearance at the tournament when his side face Red Bull Salzburg on Friday. "He's better," said Alonso. "It's been two days since he came back from hospital," he added. - Agencies

OMAN SAIL

Oman parasailing stars make waves at UK National Championships



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's SailFree parasailing squad, part of the pioneering SailFree programme spearheaded by Oman Sail and bp Oman, have captured headlines at the Hansa UK National Championship held in Weymouth from June 13-15. Competing against top international crews, the team secured im-

pressive podium finishes — second and third places — demonstrating Oman's rising prominence in parasailing. In the fiercely competitive 303 two-person class, the duo of Ali Said Al Ghusaini and Sami Salim Al Sulaimi finished runner-up, while fellow team members Hasan Haidar Al Lawati and Adil Salim Al Siyabi clinched third place. A total of four Omani crews



took part: Sultan Mohammed Al Wahaibi, AlMuthana Hamed Al Maamari, Zaher Khalfan Al Atbi, and Raiyan Abdullah Al Mujaini. Under the leadership of team manager Nasser Salim Al Maashari and the expert coaching duo Haitham Saif Al Wahaibi and Akram Adaiyam Al Wahaibi, Oman SailFree's presence was felt throughout the regatta. Reflecting on the results,

Khamis Al Anbouri, Acting Commercial Director of Oman Sail, praised the team's dedication. He said: "This outstanding performance reflects the dedication of our sailors and the strength of our development programme. These athletes continue to prove that sailing is a sport for all, and we're proud to see them representing Oman on the international stage." Ibrahim Al Hinaï, Social invest-



ment manager at bp Oman, Kuwait, and Qatar said: "The team's success follows the recent launch of SailFree's second edition this year, which continues the programme's pioneering role as the Middle East's first parasailing initiative. The programme was first established in 2019 and since then SailFree has become a regional model for inclusive sports development, having already in-

troduced over 200 athletes with disabilities to competitive sailing." Having begun in Weymouth, the SailFree squad now sets its course homeward, preparing for upcoming challenges: Oman Sailing Championship (August 17-21), Mussanah Race Week (October 16-22), and the historic debut of the World Sailing Inclusion Championships, to be hosted in Oman.

IN PICTURES



Ceremony worshiping Fuxi held in Tianshui City, China's Gansu
Actors and actresses perform during a ceremony worshiping Fuxi, a mythical ancestor of the Chinese nation, in the city of Tianshui, northwest China's Gansu Province. *xinhua*



Jeetendra and his son Tusshar Kapoor at the screening of the film 'Sitaare Zameen Par'
Actor Jeetendra and his son Tusshar Kapoor at the screening of the film 'Sitaare Zameen Par', in Mumbai. *ANI Photo*



2025 Benin Music Festival kicks off in Cotonou
A singer performs on stage during the 2025 Benin Music Festival in Cotonou, Benin. *xinhua*



Water Lantern Festival marked in Pawtucket, US
People release their water lanterns at the Water Lantern Festival in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the United States. *xinhua*



Highlight of World Athletics Continental Tour 2025 Heino Lipp memorial
Matt Denny of Australia competes during the men's discus throw event at the World Athletics Continental Tour 2025 Heino Lipp memorial in Johvi, Estonia. *xinhua*



Eksotika Bromo 2025 held in Probolinggo, Indonesia
Dancers pose for photos before performing during the Eksotika Bromo 2025 on the slope of Mount Bromo in Probolinggo, East Java, Indonesia. The event presented a beautiful view combined with Mount Bromo and traditional dance performance. *xinhua*



Highlight of Women's Volleyball Nations League 2025
Players of China stand in line for the national anthem before the Pool 5 match between China and Italy at the Women's Volleyball Nations League (VNL) 2025 in Hong Kong. *xinhua*

ROUND-UP

NBO named Best Retail Bank in Oman 2025

The recognition celebrates the bank's continuous strive to invest in innovative financial services and solutions that deliver a seamless and enhanced customer experience

MUSCAT: The National Bank of Oman (NBO) has been named as the Best Retail Bank in Oman 2025 at the MEED's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Banking Excellence Awards. The prestigious recognition celebrates the bank's continuous strive to invest in innovative financial services and solutions that deliver a seamless and enhanced customer experience. Focused on convenience and

trust, NBO offers a comprehensive range of retail products and services tailored to meet the diverse needs of its customers – from children and youth to high-net-worth individuals. These include Private Banking, Sadara Priority Banking, Privilege Banking, alongside Current, Savings and Deposit Accounts. In addition, the bank also provides exclusive lending solutions and a broad selection of Credit, Debit, and Badeel Prepaid Cards.



To enhance customer experience, NBO's award-winning app empowers customers to manage their accounts, payments and transactions digitally.

It features account opening services, loan top-ups, as well as bill payments. Through the app, customers can also apply for a credit card digitally through Oman's first fully digital credit card application facility. With the integration of Electronic Know Your Customer (E-KYC) technology, customers can update personal details while enjoying a fully digital onboarding journey, eliminating the need for physical paperwork or in-person verification. For added convenience, customers can also link their NBO debit and credit cards to Apple Pay, Samsung Wallet, and Garmin Pay, enabling seamless payments across a wide range of mobile devices. To enhance customer satisfaction, NBO's Rewards Program allows customers to earn, redeem and convert points on everyday spending using their NBO cards for a variety of options.

PLUG-IN HYBRID VEHICLES



Own BYD PHEVs with hot summer deals

MUSCAT: BYD Oman presents its impressive range of plug-in hybrid vehicles to its customers in Oman with added benefits. Invest in futuristic vehicles, with new customers enjoying up to 5 years/75,000 km of exclusive service plan on the purchase of plug-in hybrid models. Plus, scratch and win exciting prizes including an iPhone 16 Pro Max, Apple Watch, Apple AirPods, and a free PHEV battery

charger for the convenience of charging your BYD at home. Moreover, win an all-expenses-paid holiday to Türkiye in the grand raffle. The hottest deals in town are now live for you. Head over to BYD showrooms in Watayah, Al Mouj, and Mall of Oman to experience the innovations. BYD's dynamic line up of PHEVs includes the Song Plus, Qin Plus PHEV and Seal 7DMi. The offer lasts 16 July

SEVEN-SEATER SUV



Changan CS95 Platinum variant starts from OMR 9990

MUSCAT: Crafted with discerning families in mind, the Changan CS95 4WD Platinum is a masterclass in space, style, and everyday sophistication. This high-performance, intelligent seven-seater SUV is designed to enhance every journey, offering generous room across three rows and surrounding occupants with premium materials and intuitive technology. With its confident stance and balanced proportions, it delivers both practicality and presence. For a limited period, Changan

CS95 Platinum can be owned in cash price of OMR 9990 (Excluding VAT) Its striking design, premium features and comprehensive safety systems work together to provide a rewarding drive. The CS95 Platinum is backed by a manufacturer's warranty of six years or 250,000 kilometres, offering lasting peace of mind and confidence in every drive. The Changan CS95 Platinum brings together comfort, performance, and intelligent design. 7 seater SUV built for families who expect more space and comfort.

REFINED SERVICES

Private Banking from BankDhofar: A bespoke financial experience for discerning clients

MUSCAT: One year since its launch in June 2024, BankDhofar's Private Banking segment has continued to set new standards in an increasingly automated financial landscape - offering a high level of personalized, discreet, and refined services that extends well beyond conventional banking. Understanding the ever-increasing levels of sophistication and cross-border requirements of clients, this premium offering from one of Oman's foremost financial institutions sets a new benchmark for bespoke financial and wealth management in the region. At the heart of BankDhofar's Private Banking service is the principle of helping secure legacies through generational partnerships. Recognizing that every client's financial journey is unique, the service is built around a deeply collaborative and client-centric model. Whether it is managing the shift of generational wealth, accessing global investment opportunities, or curating personalized lifestyle experiences, clients benefit from a holistic concierge banking approach tailored to their ambitions.



BankDhofar recognizes that its clients place a high value on trust, discretion, and a deeply personalized approach. Its Private Banking service is crafted not only to preserve and grow wealth, but also to simplify financial complexity—offering clients the reassurance and freedom to concentrate on other important aspects of their lives. In an era where much of banking is becoming impersonal and algorithmic, BankDhofar's Private Banking segment places a premium on human relationships. Each client is supported by a dedicated team of seasoned professionals, including wealth advisors and relationship

managers who work collaboratively to craft tailored solutions. The offering caters to a broad spectrum of clients—from ultra-high-net-worth individuals, families in business, and corporate entities, to government institutions seeking a trusted partner in prudent asset and capital management. BankDhofar's regional and international suite of onshore and offshore solutions ensures flexibility and discretion, no matter the client's location or lifestyle. Becoming part of Private Banking also comes with a curated set of lifestyle benefits. Newly launched metallic debit and credit cards of-

fer complimentary multi-trip travel insurance and a host of other benefits. Clients also gain access to Private Banking's ARISE Club, a custom-built concierge service which includes complimentary chauffeur services, global VIP access to world class events in music, sport and fashion, as well as a dedicated concierge manager. These services are more than perks—they reflect the caliber of BankDhofar's commitment to a high-touch and high-value client experience. In addition, Private Banking clients enjoy preferential rates on loans and deposits, seamless international banking services with best possible FX rates, and an ecosystem of enhanced support. The Private Bankingservices are available to clients who can establish and maintain an investment portfolio of OMR250,000 or maintain a balance of OMR400,000 (or equivalent in foreign currency). For those seeking more than transactional banking, BankDhofar offers a financial relationship rooted in integrity, expertise, and long-term value creation.

INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

National Rehabilitation House officially inaugurated

MUSCAT: The National Rehabilitation House (NRH), an initiative of the National University of Science and Technology (NU), officially marked its grand opening with a ceremonial inauguration held at its premises. The event was held under the auspices of Dr. Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Undersecretary for Planning and Health Regulations, who led the formal unveiling of the centre. This milestone marks NRH's transition from a soft launch phase to full operational capacity, reinforcing its role as a cornerstone of Oman's evolving healthcare landscape. Built on the principles of integrated, patient-centred rehabilitation, NRH has already begun delivering essential services to individuals in need of therapeutic recovery. The ceremony brought together senior representatives from the Ministry of Health, ambassadors, healthcare professionals, and dignitaries from both local and international sectors - reflecting the broad support and shared vision to elevate rehabilitation services in the Sultanate. The establishment of NRH reflects the strategic foresight of the National University in responding to Oman's growing need for integrated, high-quality rehabilitation services. Rooted in the country's long-term healthcare goals outlined in Oman Vision 2040 and the Tenth Five-Year Plan, NRH aims to create a lasting impact through a holistic and inclusive model of care. This pioneering facility embodies the National University's commitment to healthcare advancement and community ser-



vice. As noted by Dr. Ali Saud Al Bimani, Vice Chancellor of the National University, "This House embodies our collective vision, dedication, and unwavering commitment to advancing healthcare and improving the quality of life for our society. It is a beacon of hope for those in need of rehabilitation services, offering state-of-the-art facilities and comprehensive care that enable individuals to regain independence and reintegrate into society with dignity." Dr. Bimani also acknowledged the collaborative efforts that led to the creation of the centre. He extended his gratitude to key figures including Dr. Ahmed Al-Mandhari, Dr. Fatma Mohammed Al Ajmi, Executive President of the Oman Medical Specialty Board (OMSB), Brigadier Abdul Malik Al Kharusi, Assistant Chairman, Medical City for Military and Security Services (Supplies & Support), Dr. Juma Al Kaabi, Bahrain's Ambassador to Oman, G. V. Srinivas, Indian Ambassador to Oman, Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Sarimi, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, National University, and Fadwa Salim Said Al Fannah Al Araimi,

Chairperson of the Supervisory Board, National Rehabilitation House. He further credited the instrumental support from Dr. P. Mohamed Ali, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Hilal Al Sabti, Minister of Health, underscoring the House as a realised promise of collaborative service to the nation. Adding to this, Dr. Samiya Al Raisi, Director of the National Rehabilitation House, expressed, "This centre is a reflection of our commitment to restoring hope, movement, and dignity through focused and compassionate care. We extend our sincere gratitude to all whose leadership and dedication played a vital role in bringing this centre to life." The National Rehabilitation House is more than a healthcare facility; it is a centre for healing, education, and research that aims to shape the future of rehabilitative sciences in Oman. By combining clinical excellence with academic innovation, it stands as a model for how academic institutions can drive sustainable healthcare development and elevate rehabilitation standards locally and regionally.

CAMPAIGN

Genetco launches Gree AC 'Scratch & Win' promo

MUSCAT: Genetco, the exclusive distributor of Gree air conditioners in Oman, announced a limited-time "Scratch & Win" consumer promotion running from 20 June to 31 July. The campaign aims to spread consumer joy while celebrating Gree's continued No. 1 market share in Oman's residential split AC segment, rewarding customers with guaranteed discounts on their purchase—including the chance to win a 100% instant refund on their new Gree air conditioner. "Gree's unwavering commitment to quality has earned the trust of Omani consumers," said Dr Muthanna Al Durrah, CEO & Board Advisor of Genetco. "This promotion is our way of thanking every household that has made Gree the country's favorite air conditioning brand."



Promotion highlights: Every buyer of a qualifying Gree air conditioner receives an on-the-spot "Scratch & Win" card. Instant prizes include: • 100% Cash Back Refund • 25% Discount • 15% Discount • Additional discounts - everyone is a winner with an assured minimum discount (Note: This offer does not apply to the two already discounted

models during the promotion, i.e., 18GMAX & 24GMAX.) Offer valid across the Sultanate of Oman through Genetco-authorized dealers and participating retail partners. Promotion period: 40 days only - from 20 June to 31 July. "For the first time, Genetco and Gree are bringing Omani consumers a guaranteed-win promotion," added Dr. Ambuj Khare, Chief Operating Officer, Genetco.

MILESTONE

Al Sharqiyah University makes debut in Times Higher Education Impact Rankings

MUSCAT: Al Sharqiyah University has achieved a significant milestone by being ranked for the first time in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2025, one of the most prestigious global rankings that assess universities' progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). The results of the THE Impact Rankings 2025 were officially announced on June 18, in Istanbul, Turkey. The University was placed in the 1001-1500 band globally, out of 2,526 universities representing over 130 countries, and ranked second nationally among



higher education institutions in Oman. This global recognition reflects the University's growing international presence and underscores its sustained commitment to social impact, academic excellence, and active engagement with

sustainability goals. Professor Yahya bin Mansour Al-Wahaibi, Vice Chancellor of Al Sharqiyah University, remarked: "This achievement is the result of the collaborative efforts of our academic and administrative staff, students, and community partners. It marks a pivotal moment in our journey toward embedding sustainability into our academic, research, and community engagement practices. Being featured in this global ranking reinforces our international presence and motivates us to continue on this ambitious path to improve the quality of our outcomes and better serve our society."

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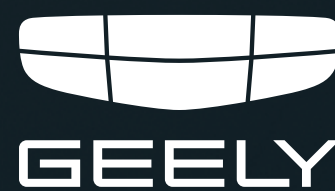
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