



3
DAYS
TO GO

#50GoldenYears

Times OF OMAN



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HM THE SULTAN'S SPECIAL ENVOY RETURNS FROM BAHRAIN

His Highness Sayyid Fatik bin Fahar Al Said, Special Envoy to His Majesty the Sultan has returned home from the sisterly Kingdom of Bahrain after conveying condolences of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik on the death of Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa. HH Sayyid Fatik was accompanied by an official delegation comprising HH Sayyid Kamil bin Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior, Dr. Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Sa'eedi, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs and Abdullah bin Rashid Al Medailwi, Sultanate's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain. -**ONA**



OMAN IPR regulations in Oman

1 The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion has said that IP Rights laws will help in attracting investments. **>A2**



OMAN Labour camp inspection

2 12 labour accommodations have been closed after more than 500 inspection visits were carried out by the Ministry of Labour. **>A3**

BUSINESS Biden's 5 challenges

3 From the pandemic to his tax and spending plans, US President-elect Joe Biden faces an uphill battle as soon as he takes office. **>B1**



53 dead as Typhoon Vamco devastates the Philippines

A6

'HEALTHCARE GIVEN TO ALL IN NEED'

In the 10 months of pandemic, no one has been denied healthcare in Oman, says the Health Minister

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, patients in Oman were not denied of admissions at Intensive Care Units (ICU), Minister of Health said.

Speaking to TTV, ahead of the country's 50th National Day, Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Saidi was also confident the country would provide care to all those who require it in future as well.

"This pandemic has shown everybody how strong our healthcare system is," he said. "We've been going for the last 10 months non-stop, and as yet, and I hope it will never happen, we have not deprived any person of an intensive care bed."

"We have not deprived any person from the care they deserve and need during this pan-



demie," the minister added. "The reason for all these successes is because of the dedication, hard work and efforts of all the staff in healthcare."

The number of COVID-19 patients in Oman's ICUs peaked at 220, before declining. As of 12 November, there were 135 patients still in intensive care. The total number of people who so far tested positive for the disease was 119,442, while recoveries amounted to 110,050, reflecting a rate of 92 percent. 1,326 people have

sadly lost their lives due to the disease, and 318 people were still hospitalised due to COVID-19, as of Thursday.

With Oman's 50th National Day celebrations coming during the pandemic, the Minister of Health said festivities to mark this have been arranged to avoid large scale gatherings, as they are among the fastest modes of transmitting the disease.

"It is true that the coronavirus hijacked a lot of our freedoms, both in Oman and worldwide," he

admitted. "The plans for the 50th National Day have been tailored in accordance with this pandemic. This is the message from His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik to everybody: people's lives are superior to everything else."

He went on to say: "This is one of the most important days in our history, and yet, because of this pandemic, the celebration will be symbolic, the celebration will be mainly virtual, and the reason for this is that gatherings are considered high-risk towards spreading

this virus."

Looking back at the achievements in the country's healthcare sector over the past five decades, Ahmed Al Saidi also paid tribute to all of the healthcare workers for their efforts in helping limit the spread of the pandemic in the country, as well as the quality of care they have always provided to people. "There are 57,000 people working in the healthcare sector in Oman," he explained. "Everything has changed for the better. This would not have happened without the dedication and support of the government, and the hard work of everybody in the country, in particular the staff working in healthcare, to whom I always provide my gratitude."

"Today, we have 83 hospitals in the country, 50 of these belong to the Ministry of Health," added the minister. "Others belong to the private sector and other government agencies. We have hundreds of clinics and thousands of pharmacies. In 1970, we had only 13 doctors serving the whole country...today we have more than 9,600 doctors, 1,400 dentists, and more than 20,000 nurses." Al Saidi also used data related to the welfare of people in the country to underline the benefits they had experienced over the last 50 years.

>A4

COVID-19

Healthcare sector growing despite challenges: Fitch



NEW YORK: Fitch Ratings, the American credit rating agency, reaffirmed that the healthcare sector in the Sultanate is expanding and growing despite the challenges the national economy faces on account of the developments of COVID-19 pandemic and the decrease in oil prices.

Fitch Ratings added in a new report that the increase in the contribution of the private sector in the healthcare has boosted the expansion of this vital sector.

The report of Fitch Ratings shows its forecasts for medicines market, the expenses of healthcare, imports and exports with the focus on the forecasts of growth for medicines market and medical prescriptions having patents.

The report also shows the available trade opportunities in the medicines and healthcare sector through the revision and update of the latest trends/data available in the industry, the changes in related regulations and the major deals, projects and investments in the sector. - **ONA**

GROWTH STORY



A look back at 50 years of Oman's economic progress

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman has taken great strides forward in building a resilient economy that provides a good quality of living for its people, and will continue to strengthen it in the years to come.

Ahead of the country's 50th National Day, the government announced that the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had risen from OMR103.6 million in 1970, to OMR30 billion in 2018, having gone up to half a million Rials under the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour.

With Oman keen to pursue economic diversification across various sectors of production, non-oil activities accounted for 70 per cent of the GDP at current prices, figures that reflect the extent of attention paid by the modern renaissance that began on July 23, 1970 under the leadership of modern Oman's builder.

During the past five decades, the Sultanate has witnessed the implementation of large-scale economic projects, the most prominent of which are oil refineries in Muscat, Sohar and Duqm, and heavy and petrochemical projects in Sohar, Sur, Salalah and Duqm.

Official numbers indicate that the contribution of the manufacturing sector to the gross domestic product last year amounted to OMR3.071 billion, or 15 per cent of the GDP originating from non-oil activities.

The Sultanate has also been keen on encouraging various commercial and industrial activities and has provided them with the necessary support for success and continuity.

Last year, the gross domestic product for industrial activities reached OMR5.6 billion, while the GDP for service activities was OMR14.1 billion. **>A5**



OMAN



PRAYER TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....	11.56pm
Asr.....	3:05pm
Maghrib.....	5:27pm
Isha.....	6:40pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:03am

#50GoldenYears



Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress

Regulating laws for intellectual property rights to help Oman attract investments



The Ministry is looking to create a competitive business environment for the private sector to help the development of the national economy effectively

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion has said that the regulatory laws for intellectual property (IP) rights will help in attracting commercial and industrial investments for innovation-based projects.

The Ministry is looking to create a competitive business environment for the private sector to help the development of the national economy effectively.

All indications are that the transfer of inventions to the stage of industrialisation, production and then marketing will help achieve good financial returns for investors and companies.

These factors will contribute in achieving growth, even as the Ministry makes vigorous efforts for the

development of the intellectual property rights sector that supports the capabilities of inventors.

In the last 10 months, more than 8,400 trademark and patent applications have been received by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

Number of applications

The number of applications for 'national' and 'international' trademarks and patents submitted to the Intellectual Property Department from the beginning of January to the end of October 2020 was 8,433. Of these applications 6,188 were for national trademarks, 1,814 for international trademarks, and 431 for national and international patents.

The ministry confirmed that the Ministerial Decision No.206/2018 regarding reducing fees for stu-



PATENT APPLICATIONS: In the last 10 months, more than 8,400 trademark and patent applications have been received by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion. - Supplied picture

dents and researchers of small and medium enterprises by 90 per cent and 50 per cent respectively was a catalyst for more national

patent applications, as the invention could benefit from this reduction by spending and developing innovations.

In addition to this, the patent examiners at the Intellectual Property Department are also assisting inventors in drafting their

applications, initial searches and providing advice regarding the importance of registration and protection.

FROM MONDAY

Made in Oman campaign

MUSCAT: A new month-long Made in Oman campaign will be launched in stores, supermarkets and malls across the Sultanate this Monday.

Organised by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion in partnership with Authority of Small & Medium Enterprises Development, the Consumer Protection Authority, Madayn and Oman Chamber of

Commerce & Industry, as well as representatives from the business community.

The campaign is designed to support local producers and manufacturers by encouraging consumers across the Sultanate to think and buy local first.

Noting the tremendous support received from collaborators and partners in the Made in Oman campaign, Qais bin Mohammed

Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry & Investment Promotion said: "We are proud of Omani products and where they have reached in the global market. And it is therefore with immense pride that we launch this campaign as part of the ministry's activities to mark and celebrate the very special occasion of Oman's 50th National Day."

— ONA



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COVID-19: Over 500 inspections of labour camps

The visits were carried out by the Ministry of Labour to ensure adherence to precautionary measures to prevent spread of COVID-19 among workers

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Twelve labour accommodations have been closed after more than 500 inspection visits were carried out by the Ministry of Labour to ensure the commitment of private sector establishments towards implementing precautionary measures to limit the spread of the virus among its workers between March 23 and October 30, 2020.

According to the ministry, 63 establishments were found to have violated established procedures and one facility was referred to the Public Prosecution.

The ministry said, "The inspection visits of the epidemiological investigation team to the establishments and institutions of the private sector between March 23 and October 30, amounted to 516. They revealed the commitment of 140 establishments to the implementation of the precaution-



SAFETY: The epidemiological investigation team for private sector establishments and institutions was formed according to the directives of the Supreme Committee.

ary measures imposed by the Supreme Committee."

"The team also closed 12 labour accommodation and re-inspection visits have been done to ensure that these establishments adhere to the precautionary measures, and opened them after ensuring their compliance," the ministry added.

The epidemiological investigation team for private sector establishments and institutions was formed according to the directives of the Supreme Committee to ensure the commitment of private sector establishments to implement precautionary measures to protect their workers from the risk of infection.

Salem Al Badi, Director General of Labour Welfare at the Ministry of Labour, said, "The team, in cooperation with the Royal Oman Police, monitored the implementation of the facilities in the transport and communications sector of precautionary measures to prevent the epidemic. It also ensured that the facilities were committed to setting up a mechanism to regulate the daily routes of workers from housing to workplaces and to ensure that the means of

transport meet the specified capacity of passengers, taking into account the existence of safe distance among them and monitoring violators."

During March 23 to May 31, 2020, Safety and Health Department received 173 reports for failure to apply precautionary measures to limit the spread of COVID-19, through the electronic system of complaints and reports, precautionary team, and the ministry's hotline, where 50 written warnings have been released to the establishments, five of them transferred to the competent authorities to consider their violation, and 42 of these establishments were given a grace period to correct their conditions, while the number of establishments abiding by the procedures reached 76 establishments.

Al Badi confirmed, "The epidemiological investigation team, in cooperation with the General Directorate of Private Health Institutions, issued a guidelines on the measures that must be followed by companies and sponsors to prevent and limit the spread of COVID-19 among the workers at work sites and their residences."


Sultanate of Oman
Consumer Protection Authority

Recall For
Porsche Cayenne
& Cayenne Coupé


PORSCHE


Cayenne


Cayenne Coupé

Date of Campaign: 15/11/2020

Campaign Type: Technical

Campaign Section: ATF oil line between Tiptronic transmission and ATF cooler

Product Description: Porsche Cayenne & Cayenne Coupé

Number of Vehicles Affected	VIN Range		Production Year	Vehicle Model
	From	To		
2 Cayenne	WP1AA2AY4LDA02315	WP1AA2AY1LDA02319	2020	2020
12 Cayenne Coupé	WP1BA2AY1LDA47197	WP1BA2AYXLD447442	2020	2020

Description:

The friction weld between the connection and pipe in the oil line of the Tiptronic transmission may not have been carried out in accordance with specifications. Fluid leaks can occur between the connection and pipe.

Action Taken:

Checking production date of ATF oil line and depending on the output/result, replace the ATF oil line if necessary.

Contact Information:

Service Department
Porsche Centre Oman
P.O. Box: 814, P.C: 100
Tel. No.: 2235 2940, Ext: 400
Fax: 2235 2934
Email: porscheoman@satailc.co.om

CR. No. 1106236


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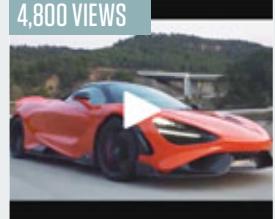

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4,800 VIEWS


A video story on the McLaren 765LT


A video story on the McLaren 765LT got 4,800 views and reached 19,100 people on Facebook.


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A video story on the McLaren 765LT


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NCSI DATA

MINISTER OF HEALTH

More than 6,000 new cases of diabetes recorded in Oman

Times News Service

MUSCAT: More than 6,000 new cases of diabetes have been recorded among people in the Sultanate, according to data from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

According to the data shared by NCSI, new cases of diabetic patients registered in the Sultanate have reached 6,450, of which 6,115 are Omani, while just 315 are non-Omani.

At 22 percent of all incidences of diabetes, North Al Batinah Governorate registered the largest percentage of diabetic patients among all the governorates of the Sultanate, while Musandam had the lowest percentage, estimated at 0.8 per cent.

Last month, Oman's Ministry of Health had said that 15 percent of the country's population had dia-



betes, making such a significant prevalence a cause for concern.

"Chronic non-communicable diseases constitute a global and local burden, as 15 percent of the population of the Sultanate suffers from diabetes mellitus and about two-thirds of the population suffers from high blood

pressure," said the ministry in a statement. "30 percent of the population is obese, and 35 percent is overweight."

The country's National Diabetes and Endocrine Centre has previously published documentation for people suffering from diabetes mellitus to bring their condition

under control.

Under this guide, treatment for diabetes includes several components, including education, diet, nutrition and weight management, exercise, reduction in smoking, if any, and administering medication such as oral hypoglycaemic drugs and insulin.

Among the key points of advice is to encourage people to eat starchy foods such as breads, pasta, cereals, potatoes, and rice, while avoiding "sugar and sugary foods such as, chocolate, sweets, pastries, sugar-based biscuits and sweetmeats such as halwa and baklava.

"A teaspoon of pure natural honey may be taken with starchy foods such as bread and preferably after a meal," added the guide. "Taking more than one teaspoon or taking honey on an empty stomach should be discouraged."

Primary healthcare is affordable, accessible

"Healthcare in Oman before 1970 was primitive," explained the minister. "If not all, most of the healthcare was provided by missionary hospitals. We are very grateful for the work they did, and the services they provided us at that time, which was a very difficult period.

He went on to say: "In 1970, when the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, God rest his soul, became the Sultan of Oman, the life expectancy for Omanis was only 49 years for men and 50 years for women. That is very low by any standard.

"Life expectancy jumped in the early '70s from 50 to 77.7 years, in the early '70s," added Al Saidi. "For every 1,000 children born, 20 to 25 per cent of them used to die before their fifth birthday - that is also a huge number. Today, instead of 180 children dying before the age of five, that number has been reduced to about 10."

With healthcare a priority dur-

ing the pandemic, the Minister of Health asked everyone in the country to cooperate with the measures in effect to stop the spread of COVID-19.

"The success of healthcare in Oman was because the concentration was on primary healthcare, which is affordable, accessible, and manages most of the cases in the country," he said. "Of course, specialised care also has to match that and improve, and I am very proud of what we have achieved so far. His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik's support towards healthcare is very obvious, and all of us in this sector will do our best to look after you, but you need to help us to look after you as well."

"Maintaining and improving our achievements is very difficult," he explained. "It can be easy to reach the top, but staying there can be very difficult, unless we continue the work we are doing now, unless we cooperate with each other."

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UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE NINE MONTHS PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020
DIRECTORS' REPORT
Interim Report for the period ended 30th September, 2020

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to present the un-audited results of Voltamp Energy SAOG for the third quarter ended 30th September 2020.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS:
Summary of performance of the Company (including Subsidiaries) is as follows:

Particulars	Nine months period ended 30th Sep. 2020	Nine months period ended 30th Sep. 2019	% Increase/ (decrease)
Revenue	26,064,856	29,344,658	(11.18)
Other Income	90,407	161,173	(43.91)
Expenses	(26,148,556)	(29,315,314)	(10.80)
Profit Before Tax	6,707	190,517	(96.48)
Taxation	120,225	62,639	91.93
Profit After Tax	126,932	253,156	(49.86)
Basic earnings per share	0.002	0.003	(33.33)
Net assets per share	0.257	0.261	(1.53)
Paid-up share capital	8,140,275	8,140,275	0.00

During the nine month period the Company achieved revenue of RO 26.06 million as against revenue of 29.34 million during the same period last year. The reduction in revenue is mainly because of the general economic conditions across the region in addition to the pandemic continue to impact the business. As a result profit after tax achieved by the company was RO 0.127 million during the nine month period as against RO 0.253 million during the same period last year.

The performance of the company has improved during the third quarter compared to the second quarter. For the third quarter revenues achieved are RO 8,589,738 as compared to RO 7,531,090 in the second quarter of the year and Profit after Tax achieved in third quarter was RO 25,983 as compared to loss of RO 291,851 in the second quarter.

The company has been diligently following the directives issued by the supreme committee and is conducting its business activities with the necessary precautions to safeguard the wellbeing of its employees and the wider community.

Future Outlook
The company made a breakthrough in the 220 kV range of transformers by receiving its first order for the same in the 3rd quarter. With this, VOLTAMP becomes the only company in the region to produce such this class of large transformers, thus providing the company's customers with a local alternative to foreign imports. VOLTAMP will continue upgrading its manufacturing capabilities in an effort to become the leading manufacturers of large power transformers in the region. This will not only enhance revenue streams mid term period, but provide the company with sustainable growth in the long run.

The company will continue reviewing its cost structure as well as enhance its efforts in penetrating new markets and boost its export sales further.

The company continues to work on improvements in efficiency and productivity throughout its operation, as well as enhancing its products competitiveness, and mitigating the ongoing challenges of COVID 19.

For future outlook company's view remains as "cautiously optimistic"

Compliance
The company is in compliance with the current CMA code and prevailing relevant regulations.

Thanks & Appreciation:
On behalf of the Board, I would like to convey our best wishes and felicitations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik on the occasion of the National Day, wishing His Majesty continued good health and longevity, and for the people of Oman continued peace, progress, and prosperity.

I would like to also extend our thanks and appreciation to His Majesty's Government for the incentives and support extended to all sectors of the economy during the course of this pandemic.

The Board of Directors wish to also register their sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Capital Market Authority, Muscat Securities Market and Oman Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

The Board of Directors would like to thank HE Qais bin Mohamed Al Yousef for his great contribution in the growth journey of Voltamp Energy during his tenure as Chairman of the Board.

I also thank our Customers and Bankers for their continued support to the Company and its Group. I would also like to convey my sincere thanks to the Shareholders of the Company for the confidence they have reposed in the Company and in its Board. Finally, I would like to thank all the Staff and the Management of the Company for their sincere and continued efforts.

For & on behalf of the Board of Directors

Voltamp Energy SAOG
Sayyid Aymen bin Hamad Al Busaidi
Chairman

	30th Sept. 2020	30th Sept. 2019	31st December 2019 (Audited)
Assets	RO	RO	RO
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9,819,455	10,368,340	10,410,988
Intangible Assets	561,893	642,349	699,591
Investments at fair value through other comprehensive income	891,891	1,189,189	974,474
Right-of-use assets	880,798	728,716	715,587
Deferred tax asset	519,894	349,202	383,751
Total non-current assets	12,667,921	13,273,796	13,184,471
Current assets			
Inventories	11,336,045	14,664,524	15,297,395
Trade and other receivables	18,592,591	24,143,512	23,203,145
Amount due from related parties	415,992	446,965	401,868
Cash in hand and at banks	1,138,099	361,283	125,824
Total current assets	31,482,727	39,616,284	39,028,202
Total assets	44,150,648	52,890,080	52,212,673
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	8,140,275	8,140,275	8,140,275
Share premium	3,146,070	3,146,070	3,146,070
Fair value reserve	(1,875,406)	(1,578,108)	(1,792,824)
Legal reserve	3,003,396	2,880,522	2,924,684
Retained earnings	7,552,942	7,811,914	8,043,144
Equity attributable to the Parent Company's shareholders	19,967,277	20,400,673	2,046,349
Non controlling interest	955,893	843,466	824,484
Total Equity	20,923,170	21,244,139	21,286,833
Liabilities			
Non-current liabilities			
Long term loan	1,142,703	2,199,674	1,948,528
Non-current portion of lease liabilities	798,319	674,132	644,703
End of service benefits	663,708	662,512	647,648
Total non-current liabilities	2,604,731	3,536,318	3,240,879
Current liabilities			
Bank borrowings	10,358,444	16,654,503	14,066,471
Current portion of long term loan	978,485	978,485	978,485
Trade and other payables	9,153,439	10,346,285	12,479,213
Current portion of lease liabilities	86,875	50,224	78,701
Income tax payable	6,606	40,863	43,152
Amount due to related parties	39,998	39,263	39,939
Total current liabilities	20,622,747	28,109,623	27,685,981
Total liabilities	23,227,478	31,645,941	30,926,840
Total equity and liabilities	44,150,648	52,890,080	52,212,673
Net assets per share	0.257	0.261	0.261

	Quarter ended 30th Sept 2020	Quarter ended 30th Sept 2019	9 months ended 30th Sept 2020	9 months ended 30th Sept 2019
Revenue	8,589,738	10,419,228	26,064,856	29,344,658
Cost of sales	(7,388,959)	(8,867,931)	(22,107,792)	(25,239,097)
Gross profit	1,200,779	1,551,297	3,957,064	4,105,561
Other income	33,071	51,114	87,901	159,746
Selling, administrative and general expenses	(966,346)	(1,332,288)	(3,178,045)	(3,432,220)
Impairment (loss) / reversal on trade receivables	(6,673)	(24,632)	(145,792)	(75,411)
Profit from operations	260,831	245,493	721,128	757,676
Finance income	887	493	2,506	1,427
Finance cost	(248,020)	(228,404)	(716,927)	(568,566)
Profit / (Loss) for the period before taxation	13,698	17,582	6,707	190,517
Taxation	12,285	84,752	120,225	62,639
Profit/(Loss) for the period after taxation	25,983	102,334	126,932	253,156
Basic earnings per share			0.002	0.003
Net income attributable to:				
Equity holders of the Parents	-	-	(19,078)	146,639
Non controlling interest	-	-	146,010	106,517
"Other comprehensive income items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss"				
Investments at FVOCI - net change in fair value	33,033	(66,066)	(82,583)	(478,979)
Total comprehensive (loss)/ income for the period, net of tax	59,016	36,268	44,349	(225,823)

A name you can trust!

FESTIVITIES

Pandemic sees low-key Diwali celebrations by expats

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Although Diwali is normally a time for celebration, expats in Oman say their festivities this year was a low-key affair because of the pandemic.

Traditionally a time for members of the Sultanate's expat community to visit each other and celebrate in their homes, Suresh Mathur, an Indian living in the country, said he did not feel the festive spirit this year. "I wished all my family members in India over a WhatsApp video call, but that was the extent of our celebrations here," he said. "Normally, my wife

and I organise a big Diwali party and call all of our friends and relatives in the country home, but this time, the regulations prohibit large gatherings so it obviously makes no sense to have one."

Sweet makers

Sweet makers in the country, who often do roaring business during this time of the year, have seen a major decline in customers this year, because of the economic impact COVID-19 has had on people's spending capabilities.

While individual customers do buy a significant amount of sweets, Ali Wajih, the owner of Bombay

Sweets, one of the country's oldest sweet sellers, said corporate orders by companies, which make up the bulk of his sales during Diwali, had fallen sharply.

"There has been a reduced budget for companies this year, naturally because of the pandemic," he said. "Some companies that used to previously place orders for OMR 1,000 for example, now just spend about OMR 400 or 500 with us, while some have decided to buy cheaper alternatives, such as dry fruits, or have stopped buying sweets for their clients altogether. We have kept people on standby to make more sweets if needed, but

that depends on whether we do good sales over the weekend".

"We had a good take on Friday, and are hoping for better sales in the coming days, but even then, we only expect to move 60 to 75 per cent of the volume we did last year, when we sold about 10 tonnes of sweets," he added. "A lot of the smaller sweet vendors have unfortunately been forced to close their operations because of the pandemic, but because we are such an old name in the country, people still come to us, and the customers that used to go to them now come here."



- Picture by Purushothaman/Times of Oman

Full story @ timesofoman.com/oman



www.galfar.com

Galfar Engineering & Contracting SAOG
PO Box 533, PC 100, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.
Tel.: 24591055, Fax: 24591676

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Directors' Report for the period ended 30 September 2020

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the report on the performance of Galfar Engineering & Contracting SAOG ('the Parent Company') and its subsidiaries and associate companies (collectively 'the Consolidated Group') for the period ended 30 Sept 2020 is presented below:

Financial Performance	Parent Company (RO '000s)		Consolidated (RO '000s)	
	Q3, 2020	Q3, 2019	Q3, 2020	Q3, 2019
Revenue	143,616	175,935	152,501	189,535
EBITDA	(7,666)	18,087	(6,686)	20,308
Net profit after tax	(21,033)	1,380	(21,467)	2,206

Operations

The Group incurred losses of RO 21.467 Million during Jan 2020 to Sep 2020 due to operation losses on account of time and cost over runs in major projects. The revenues dropped by approximately 18 % compared to the same period in 2019 as projects progress was also impacted by COVID-19 situation and the lock-downs and measures taken to control the pandemic.

The Parent Company has certified overdue receivables of more than RO 61 million as of date from the government and its related entities out of which, RO 40 million related to 2020. The company continues to sustain heavy interest cost due to delayed payment of receivables. The delay in receiving the overdue receivable has caused a strain on the Company's cash flow, which resulted in suboptimal execution of some projects and delay in completion of others.

The company maintains on a conservative and prudent measure a provision of RO.36.73 Million against billed and unbilled receivables. The Management is in close dialogue with the clients to certify and collect these outstanding receivables. On realization of the receivables, the company expects some of the provisions maintained will be reversed in the books. Recently, the Government Tender Board approved a number of variation orders for Road Projects amounting to RO.112 Million, a share of these approved variations is expected to be allocated to Galfar against the outstanding receivables of the projects completed by the company.

The Board and the Management of the Company are working very closely on various measures to re-structure the organization, to reduce operating cost and to collect overdue receivables in order to reduce the accumulated losses and improve the financial position of the Company.

The economic downturn has also affected the performance of Galfar's subsidiaries in Oman which incurred losses of RO 438 K up to Q3, 2020 against a profit of RO 820K for the same period in 2019. However, the Associate in Kuwait made a positive contribution of RO 68K to Group's profit up to Q3 2020 as against RO 150K up to Q3 in 2019.

Outlook

During the period Jan 2020 until Sept 2020, the Parent Company has been awarded new contracts worth RO ~251 million. The contracts awarded includes the Construction of 16" Export Pipeline with Associated Facility from Oman Oil Company RO ~12 Million, Rehabilitation project Fahud Runway with PDO for approximate value of RO 9 Million, and 'Dualisation of Adam / Thumrait Road Project – Part 4' for RO.115 Million, the award of these projects has strengthened the order book of the Company which stands at approximately RO. 409 Million as of Sep 2020. Combined with the Company's restructuring efforts this strong order book presents positive forecast for the company to pass through current economic crisis and to pursue growth, diversification and capability building in the future.

Oman's economy in 2020 is affected due to the oil price slide and the COVID-19 pandemic, which are key challenges that Oman will need to navigate. With oil prices around USD \$40, and the constrained oil demand in 2020, growth is expected to contract.

The company expects to have challenges on the Cash Flow front with pressure on collection of receivables from various clients. The management continues to implement strategies for cost control, optimizing the resources and makes close interaction and follow up with clients to ensure collection of outstanding receivables.

Going forward, management expects to maintain a solid order book with a good number of tenders under evaluation across a diverse array of sectors and clients. We reasonably expect to be successful in a number of those which will ensure stability and sustainability of our strong market position.

On Record

We pledge our loyalty to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, and his Government and various Ministries in their endeavors to build on the outstanding legacy of late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, and for providing opportunities for the private sector to participate in the development of Oman's economy.

On the occasion of the 50th Glorious National Day, the Company's Board and Management extend their sincere greetings to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the government and the Omani people.

The Board would also like to thank our esteemed clients, Banks and Financial Institutions, Consultants, Suppliers, Service Providers and Shareholders for their generous cooperation and continued support and the employees and management of the company for their commitment and dedication.

Majid Salim Said Al Fannah Al Araimi
Chairman

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 September 2020

	Parent Company		Amount in RO '000s Consolidated	
	Sep 2020	Dec 2019	Sep 2020	Dec 2019
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	33,715	41,313	39,113	47,032
Intangible assets	315	283	349	294
Right of use assets	972	1,439	1,307	1,862
Investment in subsidiaries	3,923	3,923	-	-
Investment in associates	5,466	5,466	4,955	4,943
Investments at fair value through other comprehensive income	125	125	145	145
Retentions receivables	11,421	8,042	11,421	8,042
	55,937	60,591	57,290	62,318
Current assets				
Inventories	10,583	9,034	12,266	10,712
Contract work in progress	39,373	56,486	41,820	57,466
Contract and trade receivables	129,897	133,880	135,717	141,105
Advances, prepayments and other receivables	18,243	25,222	17,665	26,255
Deposits with banks	2,309	2,307	2,363	2,329
Cash and bank balances	3,062	2,538	4,570	4,246
	203,467	229,467	214,401	242,113
	259,404	290,058	271,691	304,431
Total Assets				
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES				
Equity				
Share capital	41,522	41,522	41,522	41,522
Share premium	18,337	18,337	18,337	18,337
Statutory reserve	13,840	13,840	14,426	14,426
Foreign currency translation reserve	-	-	(376)	(320)
Accumulated losses	(49,985)	(28,952)	(47,164)	(25,695)
Equity attributable to owners of the Parent Company	23,714	44,747	26,745	48,270
Non-controlling interest	-	-	908	906
Total equity	23,714	44,747	27,653	49,176
Non-current liabilities				
Term loans	7,063	11,321	7,165	11,713
Lease liability	387	850	1,160	1,288
Employees' end of service benefits	13,664	14,818	13,873	15,020
Advance from customers	6,375	7,411	6,375	7,411
Deferred tax liability	-	-	323	323
	27,489	34,400	28,896	35,755
Current liabilities				
Term loans - current portion	4,933	13,711	5,383	14,418
Lease liability - current portion	612	467	895	644
Short term loans	32,030	27,050	32,030	27,050
Bank borrowings	23,015	34,204	23,431	34,261
Trade payables	76,118	69,627	85,186	79,815
Other payables and provisions	70,091	64,450	66,686	61,804
Provision for taxation	1,402	1,402	1,531	1,508
	208,201	210,911	215,142	219,500
Total liabilities	235,690	245,311	244,038	255,255
Total equity and liabilities	259,404	290,058	271,691	304,431
Net assets per share (RO)	0.057	0.108	0.064	0.116

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the period from 01 January 2020 to 30 September 2020

	Parent Company		Amount in RO '000s Consolidated	
	Sep 2020	Sep 2019	Sep 2020	Sep 2019
Contract revenue	141,378	173,030	142,349	174,652
Sales and services income	2,238	2,905	10,152	14,883
Total revenue	143,616	175,935	152,501	189,535
Cost of contracts and services	(160,779)	(167,825)	(169,078)	(179,226)
Gross (loss)/profit	(17,163)	8,110	(16,577)	10,309
Other income	1,864	2,069	1,915	2,130
General and administrative expenses	(4,633)	(3,830)	(5,690)	(5,114)
Reversal for impairment of receivables and other current assets, net	2,859	292	3,051	292
Finance costs, net	(3,960)	(5,715)	(4,097)	(5,863)
Share in results of associates	-	-	68	150
Profit on sale of Investments	-	1,488	-	1,488
(Loss)/profit before tax	(21,033)	2,414	(21,330)	3,392
Income tax expense	-	(1,034)	(137)	(1,186)
(Loss)/profit for the period	(21,033)	1,380	(21,467)	2,206
Other comprehensive (loss)/income				
Items that will be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:				
Foreign currency translation reserve reclassified to profit or loss on disposal of foreign operations	-	-	(56)	2,567
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the period	(21,033)	1,380	(21,523)	4,773
Attributable to:				
Owners of the Parent Company	(21,033)	1,380	(21,469)	2,192
Non-controlling interest	-	-	2	14
	(21,033)	1,380	(21,467)	2,206
(Loss)/earnings per share for the period (RO)	(0.051)	0.003	(0.052)	0.005

Notes: The Complete Financial Statements are available at Issue and Listing Department of Muscat Securities Market. The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder who requests them, in either Arabic or English, as requested, within seven days of receipt of the request at the Company's address: P.O. Box No. 533, Postal Code 100, Sultanate of Oman.

ECONOMY

<FROM A1> Legislations modernised to attract investments

The Sultanate has worked to modernise laws and legislations related to attracting investments. Several laws were issued last year that encourage local and foreign investment, most notably the Foreign Capital Investment Law, which sought to enhance the Sultanate's position as an investment destination capable of attracting foreign capital and enhancing the Sultanate's competitiveness in indicators.

The Public Private Partnership Law was issued with the aim of encouraging the private sector to invest in infrastructure projects and public services, improving their quality, and reducing the costs of establishing and operating them. Private sector projects also received more attention under the privatisation law, which aims to implement government policies related to expanding the role of the sector, and encouraging the attraction of investments, expertise, technology and modern knowledge.

Economic free zones

Over the past years, the Sultanate has invested financial surpluses resulting from oil revenues in establishing infrastructure that encourages investment, such as ports, airports, and industrial and economic free zones, as well as a highway network linking the various governorates of the Sultanate. It has also strengthened the infrastructure system in the tourism, health, housing, environment and other sectors to reflect positively on the lives of citizens and residents.

The Medium Term Fiscal Plan (2020-2024), which was blessed by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, seeks to achieve financial sustainability and preserve the achievements made during the past five decades, by reducing the size of the public debt and fiscal deficit, while enhancing the performance of non-oil sectors and increasing their contribution to government revenues.

It aims to increase government revenues from OMR8.6 billion in 2020 to OMR12.09 in 2024, while keeping the level of spending throughout the years of the plan at OMR 12.6 billion, at the same time, and increasing the proportion of non-oil revenues from 28 per cent in 2020 to 35 per cent in 2024.

Government revenues

Last year, government revenues amounted to about OMR10.6 billion, while government spending amounted to OMR13.2 billion. Non-oil revenues, at about OMR2.6 billion, constituted 24.5 per cent of total government revenues, while oil revenues (including net oil and gas revenues) reached OMR7.9 billion, representing the remaining 75.5 per cent.

Financial sustainability is one of the enablers of Oman Vision 2040, under which the country's fiscal balance plan contributes to absorbing the financial challenges resulting from the decline in oil prices and the coronavirus pandemic.

It also involves preparing the national economy for a new revitalisation phase that benefits from the infrastructure that was built during the years of the modern renaissance.

CFR No. 10/15133



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COVID-19 VACCINE

Donald Trump vows vaccines for all Americans, refuses new lockdown

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump said on Friday that “whatever happens” his administration won’t order new lockdowns and that only “time will tell” if another administration would impose one.

Speaking from the White House Rose Garden in his first public appearance since his defeat by President-elect Joe Biden, Trump reiterated: “This administration will not be going to a lockdown.”

“Ideally we won’t go to a lockdown,” he said. “I will not go. This administration will not be going to a lockdown.”

“Hopefully, whatever happens in the future, who knows which administration it will be, I guess time will tell, but I can tell you this administration will not go to a lockdown,” Trump said.

Trump, who was hospitalized with COVID-19, has consistently played down the pandemic, which has globally killed 1.3 million people



and infected more than 53 million, including over 244,000 deaths and 10 million infections in the US. But on Friday, as states impose new restrictions while infections surge in the country, Trump appealed to citizens to remain “vigilant.”

Biden has not endorsed a na-

tionwide lockdown but in a statement on Friday called on Trump to take “urgent action” in fighting the virus.

Trump vows Americans will get vaccine

Trump also said a coronavirus vaccine could be available to the

public as soon as April next year.

He said a vaccine would ship “in a matter of weeks” to vulnerable populations.

The Food and Drug Administration, however, has not yet been asked to grant the necessary emergency approvals, scientific head of Operation Warp Speed Moncef Slaoui said two vaccines and two therapeutics may be granted emergency use by the end of the year.

Speaking next to Trump, the former head of GlaxoSmithKline’s vaccine department said he expects to have enough vaccines to immunize 20 million Americans in December and another 20 million a month later.

Slaoui vouched for the safety of the vaccines in development.

“While we are not there yet, we are close to the objective” to having a vaccine ready for deployment by the end of 2020, he said. **bw**

THE PHILIPPINES

Typhoon Vamco leaves scores dead

MANILA: Police in northern provinces of the Philippines said Saturday that Typhoon Vamco had left at least 53 people dead and 22 more missing after causing flooding and landslides.

The “unprecedented” floodwater levels caused by the torrential rains forced some families in the provinces of Cagayan and Isabela to seek refuge on their rooftops, according to reports by the dpa news agency.

Manuel Mamba, the Cagayan provincial governor, pleaded for more support on DZMM radio, saying: “This is unprecedented. It’s our first time experiencing this kind of flooding, our rescuers are already overwhelmed.”

“Our province has turned into an ocean of muddy floodwaters,” he said.

The Cagayan Valley, which is home to around 1.2 million people, saw particularly extreme levels of flooding as the nearby Magat Dam

overflowed releasing the equivalent of two Olympic-sized swimming pools per second on Friday, according to government reports.

Almost 14,000 people were moved to evacuation centers as rescue teams were sent to Tuguegarao city early on Saturday with more help expected to come from nearby provinces, according to the coast guard.

The mayor of Tuguegarao, Jefferson Soriano, told DZMM radio that: “We believe it would take more than a week before the floods subside,” provided there is no further rain.

The city was cut off from the rest of the country due to flooded roads, he added.

Locals took to social media to beg for help, sharing photos and addresses on Twitter under the hashtag #CagayanNeedsHelp, which became a trending topic with millions of tweets.

— DW



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CRICKET ROUND-UP

Renaissance upset IT Works

Times News Service
MUSCAT: Muhammed Bilal and Yash Mehta ran through IT Works' star-studded batting line-up, bowling Renaissance to a memorable 5-wicket victory at Oman Cricket's Turf 1 on Saturday. Capitalising on their decision to bowl first, Renaissance dismissed IT Works for a meagre 105 in 19 overs, thanks to brilliant bowling by Bilal (4 for 22)

and Mehta 2 for 20). Oman all-rounder Muhammed Nadeem topscored with a gutsy 26. Renaissance were made to sweat for every run of the small target they faced but stayed put to cross the winning post in the final over.

Muscat win
Earlier on Friday, table topper Muscat CT stayed unbeaten

with a thumping 9-wicket win over AER in a Premier Division T20 League game at the same venue. Having a difficult day out, AER found the going tough, limping their way to a disappointing 81 for 9 in 20 overs. Veteran Ghazanfar Iqbal was the only notable scorer with 19. Ayaan Khan, Siddharth Bukkapatnam and Sandeep Goud all claimed two wickets each.

TOTTENHAM MANAGER

Mourinho banned for one match

LONDON: Tottenham Hotspur manager Jose Mourinho has been banned from European competition for one match, UEFA has announced. This decision has been taken as Tottenham were late to kick-off in their 0-1 defeat against Royal Antwerp. **ANI**

AUSTRALIA SERIES

Team India players begin training in Australia

SYDNEY: The Indian cricket team have begun training for the Australian series after the entire contingent tested negative for coronavirus. The Board of Control for Cricket in India shared the photographs from the players' outdoor and gym sessions. Though the Virat Kohli-led side has begun training, they will remain in quarantine for the first two weeks of their stay in Australia.

"Two days off the plane and #TeamIndia had their first outdoor session today. A bit of to get the body moving," BCCI tweeted.

Indian all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja too shared a picture of the



training sessions.

India's tour of Australia begins with the white ball fixtures as the ODIs would be played on November 27, 29, and December 2 at Sydney Cricket Ground and at the Manuka Oval in Canberra respectively.

The first T20I will also be played in Canberra on December 4 and the rest two on December 6 and 8 at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Also, the Indian side is set to play four Tests against Australia which will be a part of the Test Championship and the winner gets one step closer to the final which is expected to be played at the historic Lord's in June 2021.

With India sitting at the top of the points table in the Test Championship and Australia second, it is expected to be a thrilling contest with the first Test set to be played under lights from December 17 to 21 at the Adelaide Oval. **ANI**

NOTICE



Name : JAYARAJ THAVEETHU

Nationality : Indian

Passport No : K0795593

Resident card No : 64393624

Sponser : White Ways



The above mentioned person is no longer working with us. Company is not responsible for any dealing with him hereafter from 28/10/20



وزارة التنمية الاجتماعية
Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

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

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-retund-able)
13/2020	Provision & installation of office furniture for the autism national center building at – al khoud	Excellent & One	Wednesday 3-12-2020 02:00 PM	Thursday 23-12-2020 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

- ❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at theTender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) , On Sunday 15/11/2020
- ❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.
- ❖ The original (1%) bank warranty to be submitted at same day of submitting at tender box located in Directorate of Finanace & Administration at MOSD HQ.
- ❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402222 or 24166670)

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

www.mosd.gov.om



Sultanate of Oman
Consumer Protection Authority



سيارات الوطية
Wattayah Motors
(A part of The Zubair Automotive Group)

Audi Product Improvement Campaign

Campaign date: 15.11.2020
Recall type: Safety
Recall Sector: Engine compartment seal
Product description: A8, S8- 4.0 TFSI engines only



Product Description:

Model	VIN Number	Manufacturing Year	Number of cars affected
A8, S8- 4.0 TFSI	ODN017443 HN900121	2010-2018	65

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On specific vehicles, the rubber seal in the engine compartment might become deformed or loose under certain conditions. Upon coming loose, the rubber seal may come in contact with hot components within the engine compartment, due to vibrations that occur during vehicle operation. This may lead to the combustion or burning of the adjacent components and thus the possibility of a fire in the car.

Procedure:
A retaining plate will be fitted to prevent the engine compartment seal from coming loose.

For more information:
Please contact Wattayah Motors for more information and to book an appointment

Contact detail:
Please contact the Audi Service Center to book an appointment on 24500245.
Working hours: 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM, Sunday – Thursday.

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US President-elect Joe Biden's 5 biggest economic challenges

From the pandemic to his tax and spending plans, Joe Biden faces an uphill battle as soon as he takes office

WASHINGTON: There are several challenges that US President-elect Joe Biden must overcome to convince voters that "America is back."

1. Beat the pandemic

Most economists agree that until the coronavirus pandemic is contained, US President-elect Joe Biden will struggle to rebuild the economy. As soon as he takes office on January 20th, the Democrat has promised to assemble a new coronavirus taskforce. Boosted by the announcement of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, which has 90% efficacy, Biden will be able to reassure American voters of light at the



end of the tunnel, if, as is widely expected, he announces a second nationwide shutdown.

One of Biden's coronavirus advisors, Michael Osterholm, has warned that the US is headed for "COVID-hell" due to the virus still spreading exponentially. On Thursday, the US recorded a new daily record of 150,000 infections, pushing the overall total past 10.4 million. Osterholm predicted that a 4-6 week nationwide lockdown would bring infections right down until the vaccine can be distributed.

2. Limit the economic damage

More than 44 million Americans were temporarily laid off during the first wave of the pandemic in the spring. More than a quarter of those made redundant had their jobs culled permanently, as the shutdown sparked a wave of bankruptcies.

Biden now faces the prospect that within days of taking office, a second lockdown would spur a fresh wave of layoffs. Major sectors of the economy — events, aviation, tourism and hospitality — remain

in deep trouble and would likely need an additional bailout.

Worse still, a second coronavirus relief bill has been deadlocked in Congress since the summer and is unlikely to be agreed upon before the end of the year.

Even if both sides can agree, the bill would still need to pass the Senate, which, depending on the result of runoff elections in Georgia, may continue to be controlled by the Republicans, who are calling for more targeted stimulus spending.

Biden's Emergency Action Plan

to Save The Economy, which was published during the campaign, promises to encourage work-sharing to prevent layoffs while boosting unemployment benefits. The plan also called for further stimulus payments similar to the \$1,200 (€1,010) paid to 160 million Americans earlier this year, while boosting grants and loans targeted at small businesses.

3. Spend in the right ways

Biden has already pledged an all-mighty push to reopen the US economy and insists that new domestic spending must come before he enters into any new international trade deals. The Build Back Better blueprint is worth \$7 trillion over the next decade, to be spent on huge infrastructure projects to help tackle climate change, boost education, health care (Obamacare), and affordable housing.

Some \$2 trillion is proposed to slow global warming by making power plants, vehicles, public transport and buildings more fuel-efficient and less dependent on fossil fuels. While the plan has been welcomed by unions, Republicans have dismissed the huge spending commitments as a form of socialism which they say would kill jobs in the energy sector while

loading taxpayers with the bill.

4. Undoing Trump's policies
Biden has promised that the US will quickly rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, the international pact agreed in 2015 to limit global warming. Climate sceptic Trump pulled out of the accord six months after taking office.

5. Cost of the pandemic

A Democrat-controlled Senate will also be necessary to reverse some of \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts to help pay for Biden's huge spending plan. The president-elect plans to raise taxes on those earning more than \$400,000, as well as increasing corporate taxes from 21 per cent to 28 per cent.

The tax hikes would also impact the way wealthy families transfer assets to heirs, while capital gains would almost double to nearly 40 per cent for those with more than \$1 million in income.

The proposals would almost certainly need to be watered down in the event of a Republican-controlled Senate or in the case of a tie where each party holds 50 per cent of the seats. The lack of support would likely scupper Biden's spending plans, threatening the strength of the economic recovery. - **bw**

OMAN BANKS ASSOCIATION

OBA highlights crucial role played by Oman's banking sector

Times News Service

MUSCAT: On the landmark occasion of the Sultanate's 50th National Day, Oman Banks Association (OBA), gave out a strong message of progressive change, as it highlighted the crucial role being played by Oman's banking and finance sector, contribute to the nation's sustenance goals and leads to the development of Oman.

Ever since its inception, Oman Banks Association has been a strong voice of Oman's banking industry, representing it to promote Omani banking activities, coordinate with the regulators on matters of policy and strategy, and to support banking excellence in Oman.

Congratulating the people of Oman, Abdul Hakeem Omar Al Ojaili, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Oman Banks Association, stated, "Oman's 50th National Day is a historic milestone in the Sultanate's renaissance, as it envisions a new chapter in the nation's development – a new era which underpins the commitment to Oman's Vision 2040. At Oman Banks Association, it is our constant endeavor



to be a part of this growth story, under the leadership of HM Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, as he takes forward the rich and futuristic legacy of the late HM Sultan Qaboos. The next few years are expected to bring a renewed thrust to Oman's socio-economic environment and will be based on progressive, digitised ways of working. In line with the same, Oman's banking sector remains strong while supporting the growth of diversified economic activities in the Sultanate."

One of the key elements of Oman's vision 2040 is a diversified and sustainable economy that is based on technology, knowledge and innovation, operates within

integrated frameworks, ensures competitiveness, embraces industrial revolutions and achieves fiscal sustainability. Towards this objective, The Central Bank of Oman (CBO), continues to pursue policies that enable the banking sector to fulfil its role of financial intermediation efficiently and strengthening financial stability. OBA supports these efforts intending to spread financial literacy, awareness and inclusion. In this regard, the association organises many special events, including discussions on cloud services, digital transactions and tokenisation along with knowledge-sharing sessions on Fintech, Blockchain, and other emerging technologies.

"The importance of financial inclusion cannot be ignored going forward. It is imperative for the unbanked to have bank accounts to maintain financial stability, economic growth, social stability, and for creating job opportunities in society. The more we work towards the goal of financial inclusion, the more prospects are bound to open up – enhanced branch networks, automated banking services, user friendly

and simple ways to bank and most importantly awareness. For this purpose, several specialised committees' function within the OBA umbrella, meeting regularly to discuss matters of common interest and put forward recommendations to further boost the banking industry in Oman with focus on compliance, risk, operations, human resources, technology, finance, legal, and cyber security," he added.

Over the years, OBA has organised several training programs covering various areas of banking while also forming partnerships with public and private sector institutions. OBA continues to work on and is engaged in discussions with the regulators on important topics such as International Financial Reporting Standards, financial inclusion, the Oman Credit Bureau, anti-money laundering, common reporting standards and Internal Audit regulations, amongst others. The association has put in concerted efforts towards Omanising several roles and positions in the sector and has been successful in placing young local talent to boost their skills and growth.

GULF TECHNICAL REGULATION

Consumers laud Gulf QR code app

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Many consumers have lauded the application of the Gulf Conformity Mark and Quick Response Code (QR Code) as defined by the Gulf Technical Regulations for Low Voltage Electrical Devices and Equipment for 13 categories of electrical appliances.

They have said that the Gulf Conformity Mark and the QR code are helping protection of consumers from the dangers of electrical devices which do not conform to the standard specifications.

They said that the response of many consumers to the offers made by some stores of electrical appliances pose threat to their safety and health. This is because many of these electrical devices do not conform to the standard specifications.

They demanded that the authorities concerned should include the Gulf Conformity Mark and the QR Code as determined by the Gulf Technical Regulations for Low Voltage Electrical

Devices and Equipment to the rest of the electrical appliances.

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, in cooperation with the Gulf Standardisation Organisation of the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, applies the Gulf technical regulation for low-voltage electrical appliances and equipment, which deals with all electrical and electronic equipment and devices and fixtures designed for use with a voltage between 50 and 1000 volts AC and between 75 and 1500 volts DC.

The standard specification is meant for the safety and health of the consumers. This helps in providing safe and high-quality devices and equipment as it defines basic safety requirements for low-voltage electrical appliances and equipment, and the requirements for electromagnetic compatibility which must be met before placing those devices in the market. It also makes the movement of goods within and among the member countries of the GSO easier.

MADAYN

Global Entrepreneurship Week to focus on 'Change Management'

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates – Madayn, represented by the National Business Centre (NBC), is all set to host a series of events in line with the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) starting from Monday. This year, the GEW events in Oman will be held virtually in cooperation with the Public Authority for SMEs Development (Riyada) under the theme of "Change Management".

The GEW events in Oman, which are being held by NBC for the eighth consecutive year alongside 170 countries worldwide, will include a set of events that highlight risk management, project growth and sustainability in light of the current crises experienced by the SMEs worldwide, change management, and the significance of entrepreneurship. The events shall also focus on ways to help support youth in starting their businesses and encourage them to turn their business

ideas into reality.

The virtual events will touch upon several topics including project sustainability and risk management. The GEW events will also feature the SMEs Clinic, which will provide consultancy sessions in financial management, marketing, risk management, and project management for the participants. On the final day of this year's events, ideas participating in the pre-incubation programme will be evaluated.

GEW is a global event celebrated by 170 countries worldwide, and aims at connecting experts and entrepreneurs from various sectors under one platform to share their ideas and transform innovative ones into reality. The events also aim to encourage Omani entrepreneurs to start their businesses, encourage the productivity of SMEs to be able to compete in local and global markets, and generate awareness on entrepreneurship and its importance.

MANAGEMENT CHANGE

SPMP appoints Joel Montgomery as its new chief executive officer



Joel Montgomery, CEO - SPMP

Times News Service

MUSCAT: SPMP (Strategic & Precious Metals Processing) Board of Directors announced the appointment of Joel Montgomery as Chief Executive Officer from November 1, 2020.

Chief Operating Officer and Executive Committee member since September 2018, Joel Montgomery has been acting CEO since February 2020 following the departure of the previous CEO.

The plant in Sohar has recently reached several important milestones, including the successful production and sale of 500t of antimony and gold doré. Sheikh Nasser Al Harthy, chair of the Board, said, "On behalf of the Board, I salute the work accomplished by Joel Montgomery and the team at SPMP over this difficult period to position the business for success. We wish Joel all the best in his new role."

The appointment marks a new chapter for SPMP as it embarks on an ambitious production

The appointment marks a new chapter for SPMP as it embarks on an ambitious production ramp-up programme

ramp-up programme. SPMP has recently completed the restructuring of its long-term debt and secured the additional shareholder funding required to achieve full capacity at its Sohar facility.

With the appointment of Joel Montgomery, the Board of Directors confirms the company's strategic ambition of becoming a leader in antimony production.

Mining professional

Joel Montgomery, 46, is a seasoned mining professional with 23 years of experience in the mineral processing and manufacturing industries. A Canadian trained mechanical engineer with a master's degree from Queen's

University, Joel has held various senior operational, maintenance and engineering roles throughout his career. Prior to joining SPMP in 2018, Joel spent 12 years with the Vale Copper Nickel Operations in Canada and 6 years with General Electric. Joel has served on several boards and volunteer organisations.

SPMP is aligned with Oman's strategy to provide job opportunities for Omanis and has progressively increased its Omanisation rate since inception to reach 42 per cent, with 6 per cent females, exceeding the minimum 15 per cent Omanisation requirement for a freezone company before 100 per cent production.



Oil industry has ‘historic opportunity’ to lay foundation for sustainable future

Graham Stuart, UK Minister for Exports, stressed the world’s transition to clean power needs to speed up by four times its current rate



ADIPEC 2020: “We owe it to future generations to confront the cause and the impact of climate change - and the adoption of clean energy is central to achieving this goal,” said the UK minister. - Photo used for illustrative purpose only

ABU DHABI: The global oil and gas industry has a “historic opportunity” to lay the foundations for a more sustainable future, the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum and Conference (Adipec) 2020 Virtual - the world’s largest online gathering of oil and gas industry players - has heard.

In his address at Adipec’s Strategic Virtual Conference, the UK Minister for Exports, Graham Stuart, commented as he warned: “the price of inaction could not be greater as we face an existential battle to keep the global mean tem-

perature below 2 degrees.”

Stressing the world’s transition to clean power needs to speed up by four times its current rate, Stuart said, “We owe it to future generations to confront the cause and the impact of climate change - and the adoption of clean energy is central to achieving this goal.

“The scale of the challenge is clear; to meet the goals set out in the Paris Agreement on Climate

Change, the global transition to clean power needs to progress four times faster than at present.

“The UK will encourage our global partners to embrace and adopt new technologies in five critical areas that will be pivotal in the quest for clean growth - clean energy, green transport, nature-based technological solutions, climate adaptation and resilience, and green finance.”

Stuart added that “with more than \$15 trillion worth of investment expected to be made in new power capacity globally by 2050, around \$11 trillion of which will go into renewables, we are working to position the UK as the partner of choice for low carbon and renewable energy businesses worldwide.”

“As the world seeks to build back better in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have before us a his-

toric opportunity for global change in the quest for sustainability,” he said. “Clean growth presents the biggest economic opportunity of the 21st century for nations worldwide. We are committed to working with governments across the globe, including with our friends in the GCC, to share the opportunities of green, secure, affordable energy to meet the dynamic demands of a fast-changing world.”

Citing the investment of Masdar, the United Arab Emirates sustainability company, of more than \$3 billion pounds in UK offshore wind, Stuart said Innovative British green technology businesses are perfectly placed to work with Adnoc and other partners in the GCC and across the Middle East to fulfil their clean energy ambitions.

“Innovative British green technology businesses are perfectly placed to work with Adnoc, other partners in the GCC and across the Middle East to fulfil their clean energy ambitions - from renewables expertise to world-leading capabilities in areas such as smart energy systems, sustainable construction, precision agriculture, green finance, and electric vehicle manufacturing”

Stuart said the UK is “spending

unprecedented sums in greening the British economy,” pointing to a \$2.5 billion investment in clean growth innovation by 2021 and a record increase in public R&D investment with a commitment to reaching \$22 billion per year by 2025.

“We know it is businesses, even more than governments, that will be the main drivers behind this great global transition,” Stuart said. “This is the moment for us all to redouble our efforts to achieve the goals set out in the Paris Agreement and act with renewed urgency to tackle the causes and the impacts of climate change upon our planet. Now is the time for us to work ever more closely together, nations and businesses alike, to help shape a greener, cleaner more prosperous future.”

Adipec 2020 Virtual - the online version of the world’s largest annual oil and gas exhibition and associated conferences, was until November 12 under the patronage of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and is hosted by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Adnoc.

Up to 10,000 industry professionals from over 100 countries have registered for the Adipec 2020 Virtual programme. - **WAM**

NEW LOCATION

MEDC shifts power meters workshop



Times News Service

MUSCAT: Muscat Electricity Distribution Company (MEDC) has announced to its customers in the Governorate of Muscat that the power meters workshop has been shifted to a new location in Mabelah South.

This step comes to ensure providing high quality services to all the customers, the company

seeks to make this building as a model in all aspects. The new building contains a group of facilities such as a laboratory, a store for power meters to prepare and equip them for the power network, it also contains a meeting room and employees lounge.

MEDC seeks to consolidate the company’s core values ‘Care’, ‘Deliver’ and ‘Do Better’ in the work environment.

RISING FOOD PRICES

India’s retail inflation for October rises to 7.61%

MUMBAI: India’s retail inflation for October rose for the ninth month in a row to reach 7.61 per cent due to rising food prices, as per the government data released on Thursday.

This is the second-highest level of retail inflation since May 2014 when it stood at 8.33 per cent, analysts said.

The October inflation continues to stay above the country’s Central Bank’s tolerance level of 6 per cent for the seventh month in a row, which diminishes the chances of any policy rate cut at the forthcoming monetary policy meeting scheduled next month from December 2-4.

“The (Indian) economy is going through unprecedented economic developments and therefore one may expect a relatively higher price level. But persistently high inflation could invite action from the RBI (Reserve Bank of India) by way of even reducing the free liquidity,” said Joseph Thomas, head of Research at Emkay Wealth Management, a domestic stock brokerage house.

During the month under review, inflation in the food basket rose to 11.07 per cent from 10.68 per cent in September as vegetable prices remained high along with rising onion prices.

50th National Day Celebrations

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Required Sales Executives, energetic for building material/electrical graduate certificate degree. Minimum 2 years experience in Gulf, valid Driving license. Interested Candidates may send their CV to elaaaake.al-j@hotmail.com or whatsapp 99209617

MEDICAL

Licensed Indian dentist required for an established dental clinic at Barka. Contact - 71980280 (any time) 93487225, 78375818, 90666072 - 6pm to 11pm. Email - alidentalclinic32@gmail.com

Required female nurse to Clinic Al Buraimi. Whatsapp 968-92737149. Email drpkabbas@yahoo.co.in

Promoter is required for loading & unloading of goods & and customs clearance company. Good in English & Arabic speaking, Driving license is required. Contract with ratio system. Contact: 9477764

Trading company looking for a candidate for Sales & Supplies job with Oman DL. willing to join immediately, send CV to dz4216@gmail.com

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For further details, please contact: 94100595 / 94692933

FOR SALE

12mx3.6 refurbished sandwich panel porta-cabin for sale. Cabin of 2 Room with 2 toilets, Cabin of 2 room, Cabin with 1 room & 1 pantry. Contact 99464385. Email alcobas9@hotmail.com

ACC. AVAILABLE

Fully furnished room available in Al Khuwair for philippine lady's, bathroom separate with E/W/Wifi. Contact 79354485

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CONTACT 92042451

NRI

Indian Central & State Government Schemes and Subsidies for Start-ups and New Entrepreneurs. Contact: 71987575

JOB VACANCIES

REQUIRED

SALES ENGINEER (PEB)
 B.Tech Mechanical with minimum 7 years of experience in Pre Engineered Steel Building (PEB) sales and marketing. Responsibility involves Technical discussion with the customers, preparing proposals, cost estimation and quotation. Valid GCC driving license is a must.
Contact: hrjob191@yahoo.com

CLEANERS REQUIRED

LEADING FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COMPANY IS RECRUITING CLEANERS.

CONTACT 91764594

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CONNECT

JOB WANTED

Execution Architect / Finishing Manager
36, Male in design/ execution worked at consultancy & contracting with 13 Work experience in Hotel, Mall, Office, Airport, retails from Construction to Interior fit-out Space seeking Suitable placement. Knowledge on CAD/Revit/ MS office.
D/L and NOC available to join.
Contact: 78371040; architdesign2020@gmail.com

Sr.CAD ENGINEER., B.Tech 34 Indian Male, 14 years Exp in Design & Drafting Field (Architectural, Civil & Landscape) with NOC Immediate Available.
Contact at 94136484, kannatvr86@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER
17 years experience in Oil and Gas, Substations (132/11KV and 400/132 KV), Power Projects, Commercial projects. Available to Join Immediately, NOC Available.
Mob:-+968-94987133, pawan.prasad32@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION
Qualified female candidate with B.E, MBA seeking a position in administration/back office/ management/healthcare/marketing having 6 years of experience.
Contact 91481401

Indian Male, Seeking Job urgently in **Logistics, Warehouse or Administration**
NOC available. Driving Licence Available. Having 15+ years of experience in GCC countries and India. Educational Qualification: MBA in Supply Chain, Logistics + Commerce Degree.
Contact Number: 97880684

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Finance Manager 19 years experience in Oman. ERP implementation experience. Valid Oman D/L.Ready to join immediately with NOC. Contact 91190552/92243552

FinanceManager, Indian: 22Yrs experience (UAE & Oman), looking Job Change: 79732863

Indian Male Accountant, B.Com, 18 years experience in Oman looking for Accountant job. NOC available. Please contact 92649449 Email: manojandalloor@gmail.com

MBA professional with over 10 years of Audit experience having wide knowledge of various business verticals, seeking suitable placement in any related fields willing to join immediately contact 96740556. divyaroop.prakash@gmail.com

Indian Male, B.com with 12 years experience in accounts & finance with NOC and D/L seeks suitable placement. Contact 95689281

Accountant Indian Male, Mcom 13 years experience in accounts with D/L and NOC seeks suitable placement contact 79506513

Well experienced accountant looking part time accounting job. Contact 96558699

Sr.Accountant looking for part time accounts job after 5 pm upto finalization of accounts, location prefer Qurum to Mabela. Contact 90935099

Part Time Accountant: Indian male looking for part time Accounts Job. Up to finalisation. Cont: 92574937

Indian Male M.Com. with 19 Yrs Experience (Incl.11.5 Yrs. GCC Exp) in Accounts & Finance with valid Oman D/L Looking for Suitable Job Contact 98381981

Indian Male 25yrs, looking job Accounts in Oman and having Oman DL any suitable placement Qualification (B.B.A) Degree, experience 3 years. Contact: 00968 96602281. Email: abdulmuhimin5@gmail.com

CATERING

Cook seeks job, 6 yrs experience in Oman. Contact 79508817

INDIAN, Female, MA - English and MBA - Operations & Marketing with 8 year's experience in Admin, operations with sound communication and MS office skills Looking for suitable opportunity.
Contact 99870390 jsh_sz@hotmail.com

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER CIVIL
Graduate Civil Engineer 40 years experience in Housing, Township, Industrial, Mining, Petrochemical and port development, India, GCC and Africa. Looking for a Senior level position with Consultant /Contractor.
98878131 and 79448160 sadas_s@yahoo.com

HVAC Engineer
Indian, 28, (B.E Mechanical) with 5+years Oman experience in design & supervision of HVAC & Mechanical systems for Comm./Resi. buildings, hotels, hospitals & hypermarkets looking for suitable openings. Valid D/L & NOC available.
Contact: 95588286 email: eng.usman134@gmail.com

SITUATION WANTED PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
Experience 11 years in clearing Government and Private transactions. Omani Nationality.
Contact: Shakir - 79909955 Email: shak.star142@gmail.com

CIVIL ENGINEER
Having 14+years of Experience in Building, Infrastructure and Road projects across GCC with valid Driving License. NOC available or ready to work on a secondment type of contract.
Contact +968 95810220 ashins4u@gmail.com

SR. MECHANICAL / MEP ENGINEER / MEP MANAGER
Filipino, with over 21 years of experience (airport, seaport, infra, buildings) Working as a consultant since 2010 Having Oman D/L and NOC.
Contact: +96871180492 allirod1975@gmail.com

Procurement, Logistics, Warehouse & Administration / Supply Chain & Inventory Management
Indian Male 20yrs experience in GCC (12yrs in Oman), Experience in Manufacturing & Trading Organization, Engineering / Construction & Structural Steel Projects. Materials Management with administrative skills. Looking for suitable placement and ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.
Contact: 79706790/dmd238702@gmail.com

Omani Specialised in Registrations & Follow up (Products & Services) For Suppliers and Companies (All Grades) with Government Authorities and Major Companies, and with Oil & Gas Companies, and have Experience in Direct Marketing, Sending Notifications of Flouted Tenders which is Related to your Business Activities. Looking for part-time Contract Job.
Contact 94123939

MECHANICAL ENGINEER
15 years experience, Oman Driving licence, Gulf experience 7 years, NOC available.
CONTACT 71174969

Facility Manager / Operation (Project) Manager / Property Manager
A graduate Civil Engineer with over 24 years expertise in Facilities Management, Civil Construction Management, Project Management, Property management/development, Workplace & Space Management, Maintenance Management, Site Administration & reporting, Process & Documentation, Security & Surveillance, Negotiation & vendor management, Budgeting & cash flow. Available to join immediately, Omani DL & NOC is available.
Contact: +968-96180303 shiv60769@gmail.com

SENIOR MANAGER / PROJECT DIRECTOR – CIVIL ENGINEERING
Very widely experienced both in Consultancy and Construction looking for a placement at top management level or on partnership.
Contact: winnerdandd@gmail.com Mobile/WhatsApp 95150850, 79163390

PLANNING ENGINEER
(B.E Civil) with 6 years experience in Construction of Buildings/Infra/ Roads with primavera/MS projects, looking for a suitable situation. NOC and D/L available.
Contact: 93314353

Pharmacy / Sales
Looking for a job in pharmacy, store, or in sales by 44 years old male. Did diploma in pharmacy have more than 18 years of experience, worked in MOH oman for 14 +years. Available in Oman. Good communication skill in English and Arabic. Valid Oman driving license is available.
PHONE NUMBER: 92955468

Senior Architectural Engineer
Syrian male 15 years experienced in consultancy & Construction companies in Oman & UAE. Classified as consultant in Oman Society of Engineers and Certified PMP. Expert in Autocad, Photoshop, Primevera, QS estimations, and Coordinating with the clients.
Contact: 92199826

A Graduate Civil Engineer
having 25 plus years of rich experience in Oman and GCC in lead roles is looking for a suitable placement. Visa available.
Contact mob: 78391432 mohamedpmc2020@gmail.com

CIVIL MANAGER
Indian with 24 years experience in construction and project management with reputed companies and government organisations. D/L and local release available.
CONTACT: 97236220

SPECIALISED
Omani Specialised in Registrations & Follow up (Products & Services) For Suppliers and Companies (All Grades) with Government Authorities and Major Companies, and with Oil & Gas Companies, and have Experience in Direct Marketing, Sending Notifications of Floute Tenders which is Related to your Business Activities. Looking for part-time Contract Job.
Contact 94123939

FINANCE MANAGER
Indian Male B. Com, MBA having 13 yrs Exp in Accounts/Finance & Admin, upto finalisation, ERP, Tally & Online Softwares. Oman D/L, Noc/Release Available.
Email: mq_199820@yahoo.co.in GSM: 99279626

FINANCE
Indian Female (MBA Finance) worked as Asst. Finance Manager having more than 15 years of experience in Oman seeks suitable placement. NOC available.
Contact 94953826 / 92824146

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Indian Male, 12 years working experience in Oman,job seeking for Admin/Secretary or any suitable post. Holding Oman D/L and NOC also available. Contact No.79734085, Email: vinrai99@gmail.com

Indian Female over 18 years Experience in Administration, Accounts & Sales, in Muscat, looking for suitable placement. NOC available. Contact 93849525

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Oman seeks job for Admin / HR. Contact 95425764

Indian female 29. 2 years work experience in Oman.telemarketing/ secretarial/office work. On family visa. Ready to join ASAP.Muscat. 93605361

Bachelor of business administrator having more than 1 year experience in sales.office job Available in Oman with valid Omani D/L and NOC. Contact: 91175015 Email-sibin.reycena@gmail.com

IT

Indian female having 8 yrs experience in the field of software testing and administration looking for a suitable job. Contact no : 91711326

Bsc in Information Technology with major computing and web engineering.Fresh graduate with internship in 2 companies Available in Oman with valid omani D/L Contact: 79720156. Email:samreen.anwar.3@gmail.com

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Building maintenance forman, (all rounder). 15 years gulf experience with oman Driving Licence. Contact 79200548

Indian Male, 20-year Oman experience in MEP, Coordinator, Procurement & Tendering. Oman D/L, and DCRP License.Urgently looking for suitable placement. contact No: 79882897

MEP foreman Bangladeshi male having 12 years experience in high rise buildings, able to study drawings and handle independently Contact 96474722

DRIVER

Looking job of driver with 9 years experience in Oman. #93191575 Driver with Car seeks job. Contact 91452930

15yrs experience Indian L/D driver. Contact 98993526

Light driver 6 year experience, know Arabic and indian. NOC available. Contact 92731289

Looking heavy driver job. Contact 91703829

Looking for driving job. Contact 94531675

Driver with Car seeks job. Contact 91452930

Looking for driving job with 5 yrs experience in. Contact 79368044

Looking for driving job, 6 yrs experience with car. Contact 96176918

8 years experience on driving, looking for job. # 94629261, 95471947

ENGINEER

B.Tech Civil Engineer with 10+ yrs experience valid Omani D/L.Release available. Looking for suitable position. Contact 79023001

Indian, Keralite female, B-Tech Civil Engineer with 2 year experience seeking for a job in oman, having family visa, knows AutoCad 2D,3D, Estimation. Contact: +968 71855212 Email : thahminasha44@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer with 6.5+ yrs experience in construction.Oman DL.NOC available.Seeking job. Contact 79012638. Email baiju.thomas.1990@gmail.com

Experienced civil inspector or Quality controller seeking immediately placement, almost 10 Year's in consultancy department & total 14 Year's in oman experience.NOC available. Light licence with own car. Contact 95785529. Email imrankelani@gmail.com

5+ years of experience looking for job as Civil Engineer ,ready to join.D/L available. Contact 92146076. Email tauqir.akbar@yahoo.com

Job for QC Civil lab technician, experience 11 years, in Oman 4 yrs. Contact 97797448. Email tanweer917@gmail.com

Mechanical Design, Detail Engineering & Estimation with PVElite, Autocad, Cadworx in Oil & Gas. 10 Year Experience. Mob: 98496585

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MANAGER

Indian, Finance Manager 20Yrs Experience, Tradefinance - MIS - Budget - Planning - Auditing - Finalisation - Banking: 90473368, devan801@gmail.com

Project Manager 17 yrs experience, 11 yrs in Oman on execution of projects with reputed Contracting Companies, Residential, commercial & Govt projects, looking for suitable position. Contact 99470854, 97832844

Planning Manager for Infra projects having 17+ years total experience (Oman-8 years) Planning Scheduling, Budgeting, Costing, Primavera resource loading, Tracking individuals performance, Tendering, ERP local transfer - NOC Immediate join Contact : 91170802. Email : vvrtaamua@gmail.com

Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDO, Diwan, AbuDhabi, group of Companies as GM. Contact/whatsapp 79122818

MEDICAL

Indian Male 43.yo seeking a suitable opportunity in medical centers for Admin/Mktg/Ops.Noc & D/L available. Contact : 98274545

PURCHASE/LOGISTICS

Procurement specialist, 8+ yrs experience in Oman with multinational Oil & Gas co. D/L & NOC available. Contact 72196699

12 years experience in Oman, Seek job for Warehouse and Logistics operation, D/L noc. avl. Contact 97988048, 97032171

Inventory, Accounts & Purchase: Indian male 30, having 8 years experience with good dedication and skills, looking for a suitable opportunity.NOC available. Contact: 96219904. Email: khanshah98@gmail.com

Indian Male, having 18 Years of experience in Operations, Purchase, Stores & Inventory and Administration working in a reputed Organisation in Oman, looking for a suitable placement full time or parttime. Kindly contact on 96010598.

Young Indian male B.com graduate, Digital Marketing & PG Diploma in logistic (Air cargo and supply chain management) Valid Oman Driving License. Looking for suitable placement. Contact: 79748272 Email: shazil.sadique@gmail.com.

Experience in Procurement, logistics, marketing, stores etc, looking for job.D/L, MBA. NOC available. Contact 95491377

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JOB WANTED

SALES / MARKETING

Indian Male 16 years Experience (MBA FINANCE) looking for Freelance job in Marketing, Project Management (Civil & ID Works) and Operation Manager, Currently in Oman with Valid D/L. Contact 95804210.

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Senior Sales & Business Development Specialist from Morocco with 5 years' experience in Oman looking for a suitable opportunity and can start immediately. Contact 71744819

Indian male 42 yrs, 16 yrs exp in Oman, Sales, stock management & accounts holding valid Oman DL & NOC. Contact 95648746

Indian male MBA experience in Sales & Warehouse management for more than 18 yrs in GCC with valid Omani DL, looking for suitable placement. Contact 78287320

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Sales Associate, customer service,administrative office,real estate, rent a car,purchaser and logistics with driving license. # 97761075

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Civil / MEP Draughtsman (Indian- aged 35) having 13 years of oman experience seeking a better placement. Valid oman driving licence. NOC available. Contact 98079806. Email shirshadbabu@gmail.com

Purchase engineer, Btech/MBA, NoC Available, Immediate joining, 3 years Oman experience, manufacturing. Contact/Whatsapp +96891740462. Email eliaspallathra@gmail.com

Indian Female with 18years exp. and knowledge upto finalization with D/L seeking suitable placement. Contact 92724555

16 yrs Oman experience in procurement,logistics& customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

18+ years experienced in Pre-press and Graphic Designing with renowned commercial Printing Press and Newspaper Publisher, male expatriet looking for placement, residing in Muscat. # 99663123 E-mail: deytapash@gmail.com

Project engineer, B.tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman exp in all kinds operation of Civil Construction, interior fit- out and electro mechanical field with valued Visa and D/L. Contact 95206259, 98857994

Civil engineer 12 years experience in oman NOC available # 98047527



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Limited-edition Maserati Royale Special Series arrives in Oman

The new Royale Special Series is available in two unique and exclusive colours: Blu Royale and Verde Royale

MUSCAT: Maserati Royale Special Series, an extraordinarily limited-edition collection of Levante and Ghibli models outfitted in a collection of luxurious materials and exclusive technologies, has arrived in Oman. Just 100 units of Royale Special Series Maserati Levante, Quattro-

porte and Ghibli Royale have been produced worldwide with 350HP and 430HP 3.0l V6 petrol engines. Of this, only two units, the Levante and Ghibli Royale are now on display at the Maserati showroom in the Sultanate of Oman. The new Royale Special Series is available in two unique and exclusive colours: Blu Royale and Verde Royale. To complete the elegant exterior look, the Levante Royale features 21" Anteo Staggered Anthracite rims and Titanium Anthracite rims on Ghibli, all bespoke for the series, and all with silver brake callipers. The Royale interiors, based on the Gran Lusso trim, are available in Zegna Pelletessuta Cuoio or two-tone Pieno Fiore leather in Black/Cuoio. The Zegna Pelletessuta is a woven leather textile made exclusively for Maserati vehicle interiors. Born of old-world Italian

traditions and today's innovative technology, it was ingeniously fashioned using thin strips of Nappa leather to create an ultra-luxurious "fabric" that is lightweight, soft and durable. High Gloss inserts (Metal Net for the Levante and Ebony for the Ghibli and a distinctive "One of 100" plate complete the interior look, which also features the Bowers&Wilkins Sound System, electric sunroof and privacy glass. The Royale Special Series models come with extensive equipment, thanks to the Cold Weather, Premium and Driving Assistance Plus Packages fitted as standard. And like the rest of the range, the Royale Special Series features the Maserati Touch Control Plus (MTC+) unit with an 8.4" touch-screen interface. The state-of-the-art system features both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto mirroring functions.



GRAND WAGONEER CONCEPT

Wagoneer returns as premium extension of Jeep brand

MUSCAT: An all-new Grand Wagoneer Concept, introduced recently in Detroit, marks the rebirth of a classic and premium American icon, providing a vision of what the modern expression of the original ultimate premium SUV can be. The stunning and sophisticated Grand Wagoneer Concept's debut instantly positions the storied Wagoneer name as a premium extension of the Jeep brand. Wagoneer will define "American Premium" while delivering a unique and unprecedented customer experience. "Our new Grand Wagoneer Concept marks the first step in the rebirth of Wagoneer – a true and rare premium American icon," said Christian Meunier, Global President of the Jeep brand – FCA. "With the electrification of each Jeep nameplate coming in the next few years and the reintroduction of Wagoneer, we are quickly expanding into new segments and more premium space." "Wagoneer is unquestionably rooted in the legendary Jeep brand and its unmatched heritage of leading capability, authenticity and freedom, and its return allows us to expand to a much more premium arena with new levels of design detail, and advanced safety and technology features," Meunier added. "While Jeep vehicles bring leading capability, efficiency and performance across the mainstream SUV market, Wagoneer will ultimately become a portfolio of vehicles that will once again define 'American Premium,' making it the standard of sophistication, authenticity and modern mobility." The Grand Wagoneer Concept boasts a wide array of leading-edge premium technology – including an electrified powertrain, sophis-



ticated 4x4 off-road systems, and a first-ever passenger screen in an SUV that is part of and an unmatched selection of upscale, premium interior features. "For more than a quarter-century, the first Wagoneer and Grand Wagoneer created a new segment for American consumers as the ultimate premium SUV of its day," Meunier said. "The new Grand Wagoneer Concept is our vision of what a modern expression of this timeless icon can be, and hints at how we will redefine and recreate the benchmark premium SUV." Born in America in 1962 for the 1963 model year, Wagoneer was the first four-wheel-drive vehicle mated to an automatic transmission, pioneering the first modern SUV. The 1984 Grand Wagoneer marked the beginning of the premium SUV, giving buyers an unheard-of combination of standard features, such as leather upholstery, air conditioning, AM/FM/CB stereo radios, and added sound insulation, with a dramatic increase in horsepower and torque. Always at the forefront was a beautifully crafted, stately design that exuded class, elegance and a

premium feel. That formula continues with the new Grand Wagoneer Concept. "The original Grand Wagoneer was the first premium SUV, and its timeless design combined with the soul of Americana helped it achieve an iconic place in many hearts," said Ralph Gilles, Head of Design – FCA. "The Grand Wagoneer Concept is inspired by the original, but with a modern interpretation of luxury and freedom. We strived to create an elegant design with a timeless silhouette, featuring countless beautifully crafted details that come together to give it an undeniable presence. "The Grand Wagoneer Concept's interior is spacious and features premium materials that accentuate our team's obsession to detail and celebrates American craftsmanship," Gilles added. "A full digital cockpit takes advantage of leading technologies that are beautifully presented with expansive and easy-to-use screens and limited buttons, allowing the focus to be placed on a pleasant and intuitive experience for the driver and passengers." With this new Concept, the

Grand Wagoneer nameplate features – for the first time – a spacious third row. Production versions of the Wagoneer and Grand Wagoneer are slated to arrive in showrooms next year. They will be reborn in America – in Warren, Mich., near downtown Detroit. As a nod to its manufacturing home and the brand's headquarters, the concept's full-pane glass roof houses a map showcasing Detroit and the surrounding area. When the production version of the Grand Wagoneer arrives next year, it will boast leading capability courtesy of three available 4x4 systems and the renowned Quadra-Lift air suspension, premium driving dynamics with an independent front and rear suspension, unmatched towing capability, powerful performance, advanced technology, safety and connectivity, a new level of comfort and overall passenger volume – all wrapped in a stunning, elegant new design. In the Sultanate, Jeep, Dodge, Chrysler and RAM models are available at Dhofar Automotive showrooms with different equipment classes.

50TH NATIONAL DAY



Special limited time offer at Anantara Jabal Al Akhdar Resort

MUSCAT: Pack your bags, it's that time of the year; the time to raise your flags in celebration of Oman's 50th National Day. To mark this momentous occasion, Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort will be offering a limited-time exclusive on accommodation rates and dining. Guests can now enjoy special room rates and other benefits when booking to stay at the resort between November 13 and December 23, for a fulfilling holiday at Oman's leading resort, as awarded at the Condé Nast Trav-

eller Readers' Choice Awards. Located at 2,000 metres above sea level, the elevated luxury resort is the perfect getaway for a long-weekend celebration, whether by oneself, with family or even a group of friends. Breathe in the endless fresh mountain air, witness dramatic and breathtaking canyon views experience the time-honoured tradition of Omani hospitality and indulge in exciting escapades with an exclusive offer available for a limited time only from November 13 to November 15.

'SUPPORT KIDS E-LEARNING' PROJECT

Oman United Insurance Co. distributes laptops to employees

MUSCAT: Towards supporting children's home-based online learning, Oman United Insurance Co., (OUIIC), the Sultanate's leading insurance services provider, gave away laptops to its employees, as part of its dynamic corporate social responsibility programme. Sayyid Nassir bin Salim Al Bussaidi, Chief Management Executive of Oman United Insurance, handed over the laptops to members of staff under the company's 'Support Kids' e-Learning' initiative at a function held on November 10 at its corporate office in Al Khuwair. Sayyid Nassir stressed on the need for parents to ensure that their children's education is not disrupted in anyway due to the pandemic crisis and the absence of formal classroom-based learning facilities. "As a socially responsible organisation, Oman United Insurance has always believed in supporting its employees and communities during challenging times. Our corporate social responsibility vision is driven by the principle of enabling people to overcome difficulties through innovative solutions. It is in line with our cherished CSR values that we have decided



to distribute laptops to our valued employees, and we sincerely hope that their children can pursue their education without any hassles in the comfort and safety of

their homes," he said. Members of the management and employees across departments and branches attended the function. With a history of over 35 years

of successful operation in the Sultanate, Oman United Insurance Co. has earned the trust and appreciation of people and firms and offers a full range of insur-

ance services to individuals and corporations. Its diverse product portfolio includes a motor, travel, life, medical, home and personal accident insurance cover for in-

dividuals, and property, marine, project, group personal accident, workmen compensation and business life and health insurance packages for companies.



ROUND-UP

#50GoldenYears



Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress



Dhofar Poultry celebrates 50th National Day with incredible offers

MUSCAT: On the occasion of the Sultanate's 50th National Day, Dhofar Poultry Company, Oman's oldest, premium quality chicken brand, has announced a range of irresistible offers across its portfolio of fresh and frozen chicken packs.

With discounts ranging between 10-50 per cent off, the brand's National Day promotions are running across product categories of the fresh whole chicken, frozen whole chicken, wings, thighs, drumsticks, liver, and others. Additionally, high selling SKUs, such as the 800 grams twin packs, 700-900 grams carton chicken and the 450g-900 grams pack of wings, are also a part of the 2-day promotions.

Valid on November 18 and 19, the offers can be availed across popular supermarkets and hypermarkets in Oman, including Lulu, Carrefour, Nesto, KM Trading, Makkah, Noor shopping and Spar.

Commenting on celebrating the milestone, Truptha Lakshman, Head of Sale & Marketing, Oman & UAE, said, "On behalf of Dhofar Poultry, I would like to

congratulate His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, and the people of Oman, on completion of an incredible 50 years of the Sultanate's renaissance. As a home-grown brand, we are proud to say that we have been an inherent part of this legacy and are committed to the future roadmap of Oman. The National Day is a joyous occasion which is celebrated in true festive spirit across the country. Through our special offers and promotions, we wanted to be a part of the celebrations in every household, with our delectable, fresh, 100 per cent halal, naturally fed chicken, being served on this happy event."

With Oman's growing indigenous food sector, companies such as Dhofar Poultry are innovating with products, variants and coming up with versatile applications of simple food sources such as chicken. Dhofar Poultry is a leading supplier of superior quality natural chicken in Oman, and other GCC countries. The brand enjoys leadership in products such as chicken skinless twin pack, lollipop, and chicken feet in Oman.

Bank Muscat launches special Sayyarati offer

The latest Sayyarati auto finance offer was launched by the bank in line with its commitment to banking convenience and comes with a low-interest rate of 5 per cent



offer was launched by the bank in line with its commitment to banking convenience and comes with a low-interest rate of 5 per cent, the fastest loan processing and absolutely no need for post-dated cheques. The feature-rich Sayyarati auto finance can be obtained for a loan tenure up to 5 years and the lowest equated monthly instalments (EMIs) in Oman.

Abdullah Tamman Al Mashani, Deputy General Manager - Institutional Sales & Products Development, Bank Muscat said, "Sayyarati auto finance has always been the preferred vehicle finance for

everybody in Oman. We are very happy to now launching a special offer till December 31 to celebrate the glorious 50th National Day at a very special rate of only 5 per cent. It will now be easier and more affordable to own your dream vehicle. We are also happy for customers to enjoy the fastest loan processing time in Oman thanks to our state-of-the-art technology and highly-trained employees."

Abdullah Al Mashani added that the bank is always up to date with developments in the automotive world as it is keen to continuously develop Sayyarati and introduce new benefits and facilities that meet the needs of all segments of society. Sayyarati financing is very popular with both customers and the general public throughout the year, and more so during those times such as National Day celebrations and annual festivals. He added that the bank will continue to develop products and services to meet the requirements of all its customers and help them achieve their aspirations and dreams.

Loans up to OMR60,000 are available for buying new and second-hand vehicles. Customers looking for auto loans can take advantage of the quick processing procedure for auto loans, with loans being disbursed within 24 hours subject to all requirements being met. Documents to process Sayyarati applications include the buyer's ID card, Salary Assignment Letter, Quotation/car valuation from an approved valuator, Driving License, Mulkiya (for pre-owned cars only) and Seller ID (for pre-owned cars only). Sayyarati loans are available up to 80 per cent of the vehicle value.

Customers have also been invited to take advantage of the very competitive bancassurance plans offered by Bank Muscat. These offer some of the lowest premiums in the country. A major advantage of Sayyarati auto loans is that post-dated cheque is not required and the EMIs will be automatically debited from the customer's account every month as per the customer's standing instructions.

PROMOTION

Exclusive benefits on Toyota Camry



MUSCAT: The exciting and popular Toyota Camry has been one of the most selling sedans in the Toyota range for decades. Built to offer more of what customers want, the Camry continues to make an impressive mark with its range of features, attractive design, impressive fuel-efficiency, space and more.

Customers looking forward to owning a Camry can avail exclusive benefits including cash gift from OMR2,100 to OMR3,000, service 3 years / 30,000km, comprehensive insurance 1 year and more. (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary be-

tween model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & conditions apply).

The Camry is available in two engine options. The 2.5L engine delivers 178 HP & 23.6 Kg-m torque & 3.5L engine delivers 298 HP & 36.3 Kg-m torque. The 3.5L is also available in sports edition which adds on to the excitement. The Camry Hybrid has a remarkably clean, silent and smooth drive, thanks to the increased power and reduced fuel consumption of a Dynamic Force 2.5 Litre CVT (Electrically Controlled) Engine with EV mode.

COMMENDABLE

Danube Group is the first Middle East firm to pay back salary cut down during COVID-19

MUSCAT: Danube Group, a Dubai-based conglomerate is the first-ever company of the Middle East to return 30 per cent of the salary cut down during COVID-19 pandemic in April and May across the group.

The decision was complemented by the organisation of rehiring over 350 people at a time when other organisations are either cutting down on their workforce or asking their employees to stay onboard without being paid for an indefinite period.

COVID-19 continues to spread across the globe; businesses are facing weakened financial markets, disruption to workplace operations, and economic uncertainty. We have seen unprecedented measures taken by the world to prevent the spread of the disease including mandatory work from home instructions and business shutdowns.

During this time a decision like this will for sure motivate the employees to go beyond the limit and deliver the best possible result to the organisation.

The employees were extremely happy and one of the employees said, "We are blessed to be in a company who treats us like a family. Though during this tough time, the salary was deducted we are happy to get the same back in our account."

"Our group has been doing con-



“Our group has been doing considerably well. Of course, there had been some hitches along the way due to this pandemic and we found that nothing was unmanageable on account of the determination of our employees to sail through this biological and economic disaster intact

Rizwan Sajjan
Founder and Chairman of Danube Group

siderably well. Of course, there had been some hitches along the way due to this pandemic and we found that nothing was unmanageable on account of the determination of our employees to sail through this biological and economic disaster intact. Those efforts have now translated into us being able to hire more people now and return the salary that was deducted," said Rizwan Sajjan, Founder and Chairman of Danube Group.

"We have been able to the reach

where we are with the support and determination of our employees and we thought, having more of them would take us further than where we are today. On top of that, we feel it is our responsibility to return the amount as I was feeling sorry about this whole deduction process. Trust me not even once the salary of our staff is delayed in the last 27 years and this deduction was the first time in Danube's history. Hence I am extremely happy," he further added.

Decisions like these are required now more than ever to keep the economy in good shape after taking hits after hits due to this pandemic. Earlier this year, Danube Group also distributed one million dirhams worth of food kits across UAE among those, who required it either because they had lost their jobs during the outbreak or because they required it as they had not been paid salaries due to the situation caused by the pandemic.




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