LET'S TALK
Times OF OMAN

INDIAN TRAVELLER IN OMAN AS PART OF HIS WORLD TRIP

A traveller from India is currently in Oman, making it the 53rd country he has visited as part of his efforts to see every nation on the planet. >A2

WORK ON GOLDEN JUBILEE WALKWAY PROJECT BEGINS

Muscat Municipality on Wednesday announced the start of work on the first phase of the Golden Jubilee Walkway project, covering an area of more than 80,000 square metres, in the wilayat of Seeb. >A5

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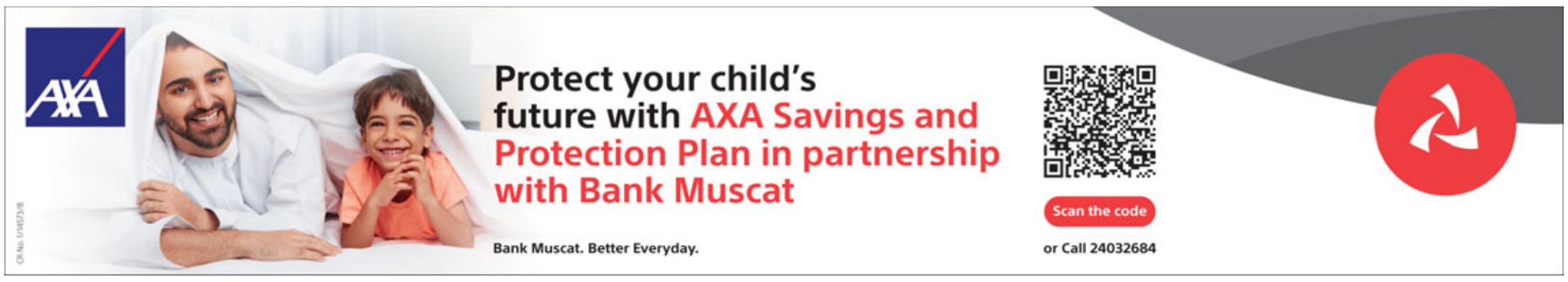

NATIONAL MUSEUM

Sayyid Belarab to inaugurate Sultan Qaboos Corner

MUSCAT: Assigned by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, His Highness Sayyid Belarab bin Haitham bin Tarik Al Said will inaugurate the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said's Corner at the National Museum's Renaissance Age Hall.

Salim Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism, Chairman of National Museum's Board of Trustees, said that the opening of the Sultan Qaboos Corner constitutes a significant feature that will incarnate a turning point in Oman's modern's history.

The edifice will portray the legacy of the late Sultan and manifest his achievements over the first five decades of Renaissance, which laid solid foundations for a comprehensive development process, said Al Mahrouqi, noting that the country is now advancing with firms steps towards a brighter future under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik.

In a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA), Al Mahrouqi added that, after this induction, the ministry will organise makeshift exhibitions showcasing antiques of the late Sultan in the governorates of Oman, with a view to associating the Renaissance with different traits of the late Sultan.

The exhibits will include gifts made to Oman by leaders of Arab and non-Arab states, and these will in particular depict the country's regional and international status during the late Sultan's era.

Through the inauguration of the Sultan Qaboos Corner, the Renaissance Age Hall will celebrate Oman's modern history and the epochs of progress and prosperity that the country has witnessed since 1970.

The pavilion will exhibit the country's evolution into a "State of Institutions", which paved the way for radical changes that enriched aspects of public life. -ONA

MEETING

HM gives audience to Russian Foreign Minister

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik gave an audience to Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation at Al Barakah Palace on Wednesday.

During the audience, the guest conveyed greetings and best wishes of President Vladimir Putin of the Russian Federation to His Majesty the Sultan and the Omani people.

Oman's wisdom

He also lauded Oman's wisdom in dealing with various regional and international issues.

He briefed His Majesty about the viewpoint of the Russian side on the current crisis with Ukraine.

Greetings

His Majesty the Sultan expressed his appreciation for the visit of the Russian Foreign Minister. His Majesty asked him to convey His greetings and best wishes to President Vladimir Putin. >A5

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Oman, US look back on old friendship

1 Ahmed bin Naaman, the Special Envoy of Seyyid Said bin Sultan, the Sultan of Oman and Zanzibar, arrived in New York 182 years ago to hand over his credentials and gifts to the President of the United States, Martin van Buren in a historical visit that has endured today. >A3

WORLD

EU lifts mask need for air travel

2 The EU will no longer require masks to be worn at airports and on planes starting next week amid the easing of coronavirus curbs. The European Union Aviation Safety Agency said the decision would mark "a big step forward in the normalisation of air travel" for passengers. >A6

SPORTS

Liverpool keep pressure on Man City

3 Liverpool on Tuesday night kept the pressure on Premier League leaders Manchester City after the Reds claimed a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Aston Villa. With this win, Liverpool are now level with Manchester City at the top of the Premier League table. >A8

BERKELEY

Jokha Al Harthi takes part in book festival

SAN FRANCISCO: The Omani writer and novelist Jokha Al Harthi took part in the annual Bay Area Book Festival, held in Berkeley, San Francisco.

She participated in various panels on books, culture and literature in Oman to celebrate her newly published novel titled 'Bitter Orange Tree'.

A number of US newspapers and journals lauded the novel 'Bitter Orange Tree', including the *New York Times*. -ONA

OMAN, RUSSIA TO SIGN AGREEMENT FOR VISA WAIVER FOR ITS CITIZENS

The Russian foreign minister also voiced his country's appreciation for Oman's stance on the Syrian issue

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman and Russia are together taking efforts to provide visa-free travel to citizens of both countries.

At a joint press conference in Muscat, Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, alongside his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov, said, "The Sultanate of Oman and the Russian Federation will shortly sign a set of agreements on avoidance of double taxation and visa waivers for citizens of the two countries."

Lavrov, on a visit to the Sultanate, stressed his country's keenness to "augment the volume of exchange in a manner that responds to the aspirations of the two sides, notably through a raft of bilateral agreements, including one on mutual waiving of visas for each other's citizens."

CONFERENCE: Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov, at a press conference yesterday. -ONA

Both countries reaffirmed their drive to foster cooperation in all fields and sign agreements that enhance bilateral relations and open up wide vistas to serve the common interests of the two friendly peoples.

Another agreement mentioned by Lavrov was on "cooperation between the Russian Museum and Oman National Museum."

He added that his discussion with the Omani side also covered ways to foster cooperation in the fields of energy, tourism, arts and information technology—among other spheres that contribute to developing bilateral relations and activating the joint action committee.

Lavrov pointed out that he briefed the Omani side about the Russian operations in Ukraine and their geopolitical dimensions.

He described the Omani side's stance on the Ukrainian crisis as "balanced and constructive" and based on accommodating Omani national interests. The Russian minister also voiced his country's appreciation for Oman's stance on the Syrian issue. He added, "It is time Syria rejoined the Arab League. We are confident that Oman is capable of practically promoting this approach."

He also hailed Oman's role in addressing a host of regional issues, which made its capital, Muscat, "a highly sought-after destination for the settlement of crises".

Speaking about the Palestinian issue, Lavrov said the Russian side conveyed to the Omani side its deep conviction on the significance of activating negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis for the achievement of a comprehensive solution to this historic issue.

On his turn, Sayyid Badr said, "Our discussions with the Russian side covered many issues of common concern in the regional and international arenas".

Sayyid Badr stressed that Oman backs all international efforts, notably through the United Nations, to bolster security and stability in the (Middle East) region and underscore the importance of dialogue and negotiation about the causes of the Ukrainian crisis in a manner that ensures the realisation of security and peace for all.

Sayyid Badr said that the Sultanate of Oman is following up conditions in Ukraine with extreme concern—urging all parties to exercise self-control and to resolve disputes in a peaceful manner, to avoid escalating the volatile situation.

He also expressed gratitude for the role of Russia in Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) nuclear talks sponsored by the 5+1 Group of states. He added, "Despite recent low inspiration to advance the nuclear talks, we still hope that logic will prove victor in cementing an accord. We support all efforts to this effect."

He explained that the Sultanate of Oman is completely committed to the United Nations' mandates. "We stand by the rules of the International Law," he said, affirming Oman's commitment to the agreements based on the OPEC+ Group.

With inputs from ONA

OMAN

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PRAYER TIMINGS

Dhuhr	12:08pm
Asr	3:32pm
Maghrib	6:45pm
Isha	8:03pm
Fajr (Tomorrow)	4:03am

All nationalities can buy property in Bausher starting from OMR35,000

AQAR launches Rimal 2 project in strategic location at Bausher

Times News Service

MUSCAT : Al Khonji Real Estate & Development (AQAR) , the leading property developer in the Sultanate, celebrated the launch of its high-end integrated residential complex (Rimal 2), located in Bausher, as an extension of (Rimal 1), which also developed by AQAR, while its units were sold within two weeks of its launch.

The celebration ceremony also included signing of a memorandum of cooperation with Bank Nizwa to finance the bank's customers who are interesting to own a residential housing units in Rimal 2 project.

The Memorandum of cooperation inked by Mohammed bin Abdullah al Khonji, Chairman and CEO of AQAR, on behalf of Al Khonji Real Estate & Development, and Arif Al-Zaabi, AGM Retail Banking at Bank Nizwa, on behalf of the Bank .

Arif Al Zaabi expressed his pleasure by the bilateral cooperation between Bank Nizwa and AQAR , to provide innovative and Shariah-compliant real estate financing solutions. He stated that: "We have designed our real estate financing solutions to meet the different requirements of our growing customer base, while we are confident that, the new profitability rate is an exemplary rate for the retail customers who are interesting in utilising the Shariah-compliant real estate financing solutions easily and flexibly."

In his speech at the press conference held on the occasion of the launch ceremony, Mohammed bin Abdullah al Khonji, Chairman and CEO, clarified that the Rimal 2 project is being built on a building area of 40,000 square metres, nearby the attractive dune of Bausher, which offers enjoyable opportunities by the natural sightseen.

He said that, it is expected to take three years to build this project, where its construction works will be undertaken by Al-Binaa Contracting Company, "the main contractor", a subsidiary of AQAR, while 35% of the project was sold during the first offer that allocated for AQAR's existing customers.

Rimal 2's strategic location: Al Khonji added: There is no doubt that the company's success of (Rimal 1) and the great demand that it has received, as its units were sold within two weeks of its launch, was considered as a great incentive for us to launch our new project, (Rimal 2), asserted that AQAR is thoroughly committed to developing quality real estate projects ,that are built on the modern specification and provided with integrated services.

He pointed out that , the location of the Rimal complex in a lively area at Bausher, is considered as an attractive advantage , that many investors are looking for, where it is located nearby a number of well-known commercial centers such as Oman Mall , Grand Mall, Panorama and Avenues Mall, as well as its proximity to Mohammed Al-Amin Mosque and other various service facilities .

He added that Rimal 2 includes 148 residential units of different sizes, allowing multiple options for all nationalities who would like to own state-art integrated property, while AQAR keens to provide all the required services and facilities that serve the residents of the project and of the surrounding area. The commercial mall at Rimal 2 will be linked with the commercial mall of Rimal 1, within walking distance of the residence, where it will be the largest commercial centre of its kind in the integrated residential complexes.

Creative designs

The residential units in the Rimal 2 project were designed in accordance with the latest creative designs, in which the Italian style blends with the originality of the Omani architectural character. The interior design of the residential units took into account the exploitation of the spaces with high-end finishes in a way that offers comfort for the residents.

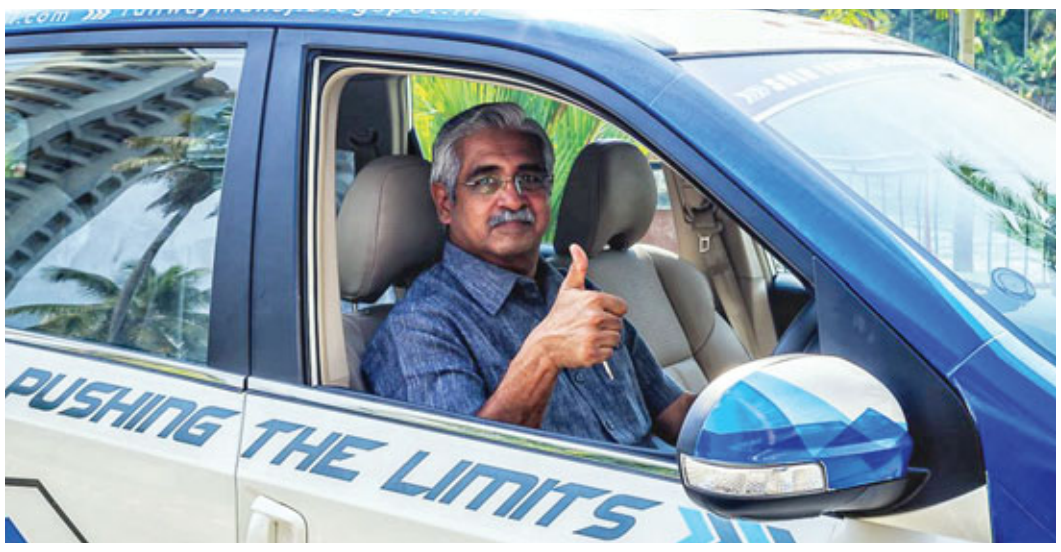
In response to journalists' questions, Al Khonji said that the current time is a great opportunity to buy, as AQAR has set prices to match the levels of the real estate market, as well as the provided advantages of the project and its reasonable prices contribute to attracting those who are looking toward investment or housing.

Rimal 2 project consists of one and two bedrooms apartments, in addition to a housemaid room /office. Some apartments have been provided with a small swimming pool. The apartment areas range from 70 to 215 square metres.

The prices of residential units at Rimal 2 ,start from OMR(35,000) for the unit consisting of one bedroom, with hall, kitchen, bathroom, along with its all other service facilities, including refrigerators and kitchen appliances.

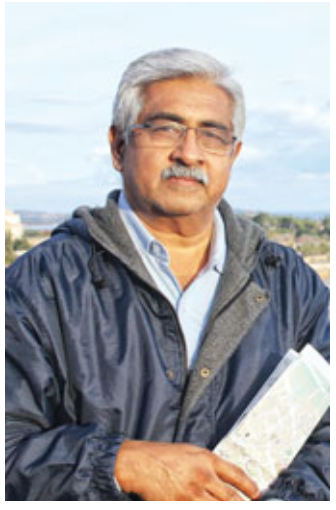
Al Khnoji also asserted that AQAR is thoroughly committed to developing quality real estate projects that are built on the modern specification, while Rimal 2 project is considered as one of the vital strategic projects that will revive the investment movement of residential units in the Sultanate, and providing an ideal environment for families looking for housing in the best projects, whether in terms of construction quality or appropriate location.

DRIVING BUG



Indian traveller in Oman as part of ambition to see all countries in world

Times News Service



MUSCAT: A traveller from India is currently in Oman, making it the 53rd country he has visited as part of his efforts to see every nation on the planet.

64-year-old Suresh Joseph, who hails from the state of Kerala in the south of the country, has since 2010 taken time to embark on driving tours in India, as well as dozens of other countries around the world.

He was first bitten by the travel bug in 1995, when he was a student of the London School of Economics in the UK, on sabbatical from his then-employers, Indian Railways.

"That is where the backpacking and driving bug bit me and I did a fair bit of it in Europe at the conclusion of scholastic work," he recalled. "Strangely, my first drive abroad was also to London, where I drove to in 2014. The conclusion of that drive was at the Mahatma Gandhi statue in Tavistock Square, London, which I used to walk by for a year when I was in London in 1995 and '96."

Joseph was first intrigued by Oman and its culture when Kochi Port in Kerala hosted the 2008 edition of the Volvo Ocean Race. To raise awareness of the country's culture and deep historical connection with the sea, Oman had installed at the race venue a restored sail ship that was once used to conduct trade with the coastal regions of northern Kerala.

"The rich heritage of interaction between Oman and Kerala was amply described in one of the plaques on the dhow," he explained. "The intention to visit Oman is built on that. Everything happens in time and at its own pace – with so much travel in the past dozen years, I slotted the travel to Oman to coincide with my birthday this year.

"This visit is a birthday gift to myself," he added. "As for the season, I believe that every country has something to offer at all times. The low season may be a time to explore places without being jostled, and the rates for accommodation are normally quite affordable. What is constant though, is the hospitality of the people. Having read so much about the friendly Omanis, I am waiting to experience that."

Joseph's driving expeditions are referred to as "Record Drives", a term that was coined rather accidentally, and one he is only too happy to talk about in some detail.

He has previously embarked on two legendary drives: one crisscrossing all of India, while visiting the four major Indian cities collectively referred to as the Golden Quadrilateral, and one all the way from India to London.

"After I got my first Limca Book of Records certificate for my All India drive in 2010-11, I decided to attempt a record drive between Leh and Kanyakumari," he said. "I discussed the idea with Muthoot Group, Kochi and they readily agreed to sponsor the attempt, facilitate the log book entries along the route and brand the drive.

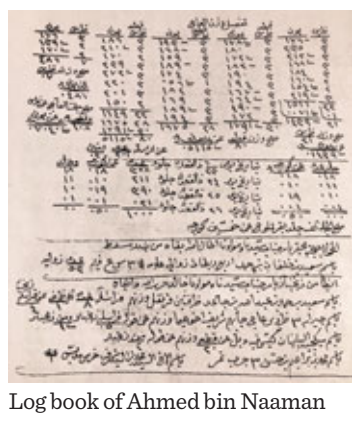
"The branded Maruti Swift had the decals, 'Record Drive' stuck on its side, and that was when the term was born. I have used it ever since, because most road trips thereafter have been to better old records or set new ones," he added.

Oman, US look back on nearly two centuries of friendship

Ahmed bin Naaman arrived in New York on April 30, 1840 and became the first Arab envoy from any Arab country to visit the US

Ahmed bin Naaman

Seyyid Said bin Sultan


Log book of Ahmed bin Naaman

SALEH AL-SHAIBANY

MUSCAT: Ahmed bin Naaman, the Special Envoy of Seyyid Said bin Sultan, the Sultan of Oman and Zanzibar, arrived in New York 182 years ago to hand over his credentials and gifts to the President of the United States, Martin van Buren in a historical visit that has endured today.

Ahmed bin Naaman, together with a crew of 40 men, arrived in New York on April 30, 1840 and became the first Arab Envoy from any Arab country to visit the United States. He sailed onboard the Sultanah, a tall masts ship built in 1833 in Bombay by Seyyid Said bin Sultan.

The Sultanah left Oman on February 8, 1840 and docked first in Zanzibar with Ahmed bin Naaman onboard, where Seyyid Said bin Sultan was in the East African archipelago island. Before he left Zanzibar, Ibn Naaman received a letter from the Sultan to establish diplomatic ties and maritime trade between the United States, Oman and its East African dominions, to be delivered to van Buren.

The Sultanah left Zanzibar two weeks later sailing around the Cape of Good Hope to New York. While in New York, ibn Naaman met politicians and important trade leaders to cement both political and commerce links between Oman and the United States.

He aroused a considerable interest in the United States and his visit was widely publicised by the New York Daily News and the New York Herald. Ibn Naaman visit was the second milestone between the two countries. Seven years earlier, Edmund Roberts was dispatched to Muscat by US President Andrew Jackson to sign a Bilateral Trade Treaty with Seyyid Said bin Sultan on September 21, 1833. That was the first bilateral trade agreement the United States signed with a Gulf Arab country.

Hermann Frederick Eilts, in his book, A friendship two centuries old: The United States and the Sultanate of Oman, wrote " few Arab rulers of any time period were as well-known to and respected by Americans as was Seyyid Said during his long reign."

He also referred Seyyid Said bin Sultan as "a visionary leader" who was looking beyond the years of his leadership to pave the way for the future relationship between Oman and the United States.

When the United States established its Embassy in Muscat in 1972, it was the highlight of years of endurance friendship.

Omanis say they are proud of the fact that their country was the first friend from the Arab world to the United States.

"This is the time we look back, both Omanis and Americans, to mark that historical visit of Ahmed bin Naaman to New York. It was a diplomatic nostalgia that cement an enduring friendship between our two countries. When I was a student in Florida, I visited New York to look at the portrait of Ibn Naaman which hangs at Peabody Essex Museum," Mohammed Al Shehi, an Omani who graduated in the United States, told Times of Oman. Ibn Naamani's portrait was painted by an American artist, Edward Mooney at the time when Ibn Naamani was in New York on the official visit. Jack Gardner, a retired American living in Oman said he was "immensely proud" of the link between his country and the country he now resides.

"I am immensely proud to the fact that our two countries are linked for many, many years and our friendship is still going strong." Jack Gardner said.

EDUCATION SECTOR

Ministry discusses cooperation with University of Cambridge

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Education received a delegation from the University of Cambridge on Wednesday.

Prof. Abdullah bin Khamis Ambosaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Education, and Majid bin Saeed Al-Bahri, Undersecretary of the Ministry for Administrative and Financial Affairs, were in the reception.

The visiting delegation included Professor Esra Ozyurek, Professor of Sultan Qaboos Chair for Abrahamic Religions and Shared Values at the University of Cambridge, Dr. Daria Frank, Professor of the Sultan Qaboos Chair for Mathematics, and Christopher Whitney, Director of Partnerships at the University of Cambridge.

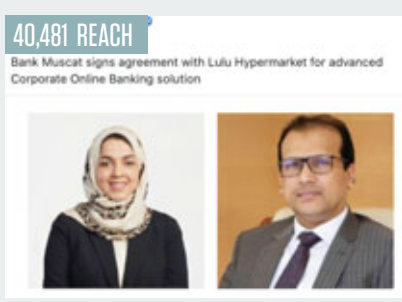
The visit came to discuss the current challenges and priorities in developing education in line with the National Education Plan and Oman Vision 2040, laying out ways to develop an educational system at a global level, and enhancing research capabilities in the education sector.

The visit also discussed related financial aspects such as establishing an effective and sustainable financing system for the education sector and how to develop and monitor the main indicators for education, due to the importance of strengthening cooperation with such prestigious universities in which there are scientific chairs and presenting joint initiatives and projects to serve academic and research interests and priorities in the Sultanate of Oman.

At the meeting, the visiting delegation also discussed aspects of cooperation between the two parties and ways to create opportunities in the field of strengthening teaching and learning in mathematics through innovative modern methods, making education more fun and exciting related to scientific and practical life, and how to benefit from existing values in societies, such as: love, tolerance and sympathy in Islamic values and its impact on Omani students and their understanding of these noble values, and how to benefit from the expertise of those concerned at the University of Cambridge in nurturing the gifted, developing their abilities, and providing programs and activities that develop their capabilities.

Trending ON SOCIAL MEDIA

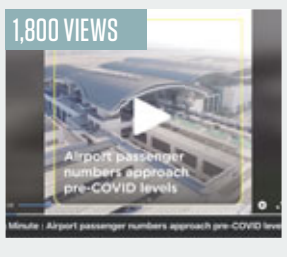
MOST READ ON FACEBOOK



Story on Bank Muscat signing a deal with Lulu Hypermarket

A story on Bank Muscat signing a deal with Lulu Hypermarket reached 40,481 people and had 1,064 link clicks on Facebook.

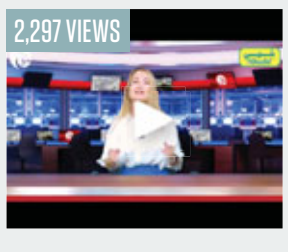
MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK



Morning Minute video on air passenger traffic

The Morning Minute video on air passenger traffic reaching pre-pandemic levels had 1,800 views and reached 8,700 people on Facebook.

MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

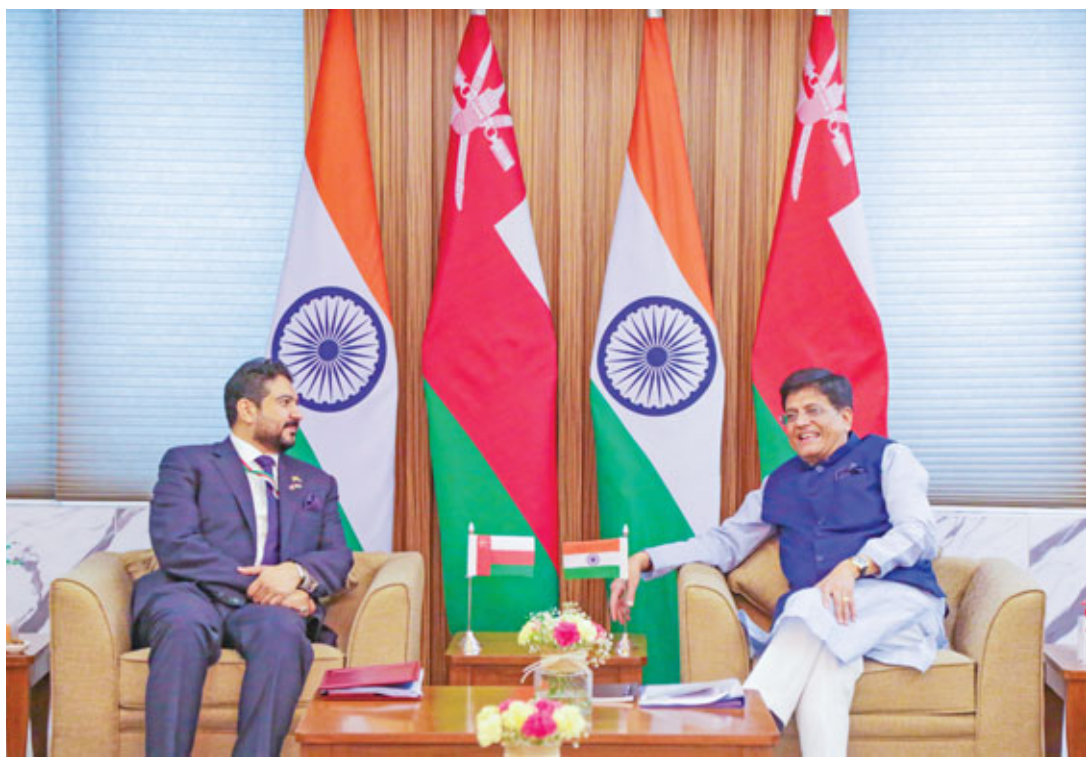


A TTV video on a new stand-up comedy show

A TTV video introducing a new stand-up comedy show had 2,297 views and 132 likes on Instagram.

Lavrov praises Oman's wisdom in dealing with regional, global issues

Oman-India trade to cross $5bn



Al Saleh is part of a business delegation travelling to India along with Qais Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Trade between Oman and India is expected to cross $5 billion in the coming years as both countries make efforts to push bilateral relations forward.

According to Redha bin Juma Al Saleh, Chairman of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), direct interactions between Omani business owners and their Indian counterparts are crucial to forging valuable partnerships that will help both sides understand the needs of each other.

Al Saleh is part of a business delegation travelling to India along with Qais Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, as well as a number of business owners and other key figures involved with trade and economy.

"I call on the two sides to make strong efforts to develop our bilateral trade, as we hope that the volume of trade exchange will exceed $5 billion during the coming years, in view of various attractions that the two countries enjoy and the remarkable geographical location that provides great ways to enhance trade and investment relations," said Al Saleh, during a meeting with his Indian counterparts.

"I urge businesses in India to take advantage of the investment opportunities and advantages that are offered by Oman, as our country allows 100 percent foreign direct investment," he added.

While in India, Minister Qais Al Yousef attended the 10th Oman – India Joint Commission Meeting on Wednesday, holding discussions with Piyush Goyal, India's Minister of Commerce and Industry and Raj Kumar Singh, Minister of Power and New and Renewable Energy.

With the goal of forging a new business agenda to help drive growth for both Oman and India, the highly productive meeting took place on the second day of a five-day trade and investment mission to India, one of the world's fastest growing economies and a country with which Oman has historic cultural and commercial ties.

Indian investment in Oman, which topped $7.5 billion in 2022, was one of the key topics discussed by participants with Minister Al Yousef emphasising the great interest expressed in the success of the Invest Easy portal of Oman's Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion (MOCIIP). Noting his satisfaction with the outcomes on Wednesday's 10th Oman – India Joint Commission Meeting, Al Yousef said, "Today's session underlined the fact that this is a partnership that can boost exports and investment as well as deliver growth, jobs and opportunities for our people."

He added: "Under the wise guidance of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and with the ambitious framework provided by Oman Vision 2040, I see enormous possibilities for what our two countries can achieve together in areas like renewable energy and pharmaceuticals to new partnerships in small business development and manufacturing – areas where Oman and India have common interest and expertise."

Commenting on Oman's $1.2 billion non-oil exports to India in 2021, a jump of 172 percent over the previous year, Al Yousef said, "This is a remarkable achievement given the serious disruptions we have seen to business during the pandemic and is testament to the hard work and dedication of manufacturers in the length and breadth of Oman."

EXHIBITION

Oman takes part in Arabian Travel Market in Dubai

DUBAI: The Sultanate of Oman, represented by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism concluded its participation in the Arabian Travel Market in Dubai, which is considered as the Middle East's specialised exhibition for tourism.

Oman's delegation is headed by Azzan Qasim Al Busaidi, the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism's Undersecretary for Tourism.

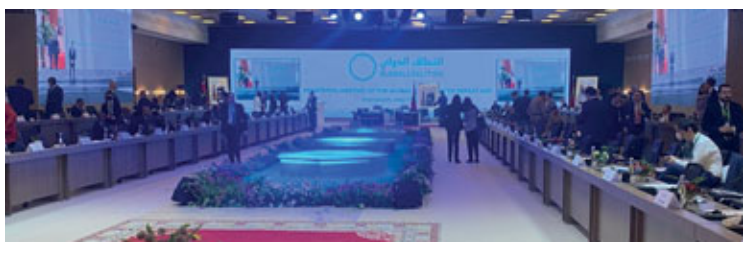
Present at the meeting were representatives of 14 establishments from Oman's tourism sector. The conference highlighted the future of travel and tourism in the Middle East in the post-Covid-19 pandemic era.

It also touched on main elements that are important in developing the tourism industry and its future, particularly innovation, sustainability and human resources. -ONA

MOROCCO

Oman participates in global ministerial meeting against IS

MARRAKESH: The Sultanate of Oman took part in the ministerial meeting of the Global Coalition Against IS held here on Wednesday. Oman's delegation was represented by Dr. Said Mohammed Al Bar'ami, the Sultanate of Oman's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco.



The meeting explored cooperation and coordination in addressing challenges in the African continent, combating hotspots of terrorist organisations like IS and reviewing initiatives to establish stability in the areas impacted with terror attacks and extremism.

The global alliance against IS consists of 84 countries and international organizations. It was formed in September 2014 with a mandate to erradicate IS. -ONA

KUWAIT

11th GCC municipal work meet

KUWAIT: The Sultanate of Oman is taking part in the 11th GCC Municipal Work Conference, held in Kuwait.

Oman's delegation in the 3-day conference is hosted by Sheikh Saif Hamiyar Al Shehhi, Governor of North Al Batinah.

The agenda of the conference include developing municipal work of the member states, the best practices of geographic information systems and voluntary work in the municipal field.

-ONA

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WE DELIVER
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STRATEGIC LOCATION: The project is located in an area surrounded by residential districts, commercial establishments and famous landmarks. – ONA

Work on Golden Jubilee walkway project begins

The project is located in the Wilayat of Seeb over an area of 84,400 square metres and is expected to be completed by April 2023

MUSCAT: Muscat Municipality has commenced phase one of the works of Golden Jubilee Walkway Project.

The project is located in the Wilayat of Seeb and covers a total area of 84,400 square metres.

The project aimed to boost physical health and to meet the needs of the population at the adjacent and other areas.

The project is located near an area surrounded by residential districts, commercial establishments and famous landmarks.

The phase I of the project includes construction of a walkway for the length of 1,972 metres, the width of 5 to 6.5 metres and a track for bicycles for the same length and a width of 3 metres, adjacent to the walkway.

The project comprises construction of three yards for relaxation , shades, rest areas, coffee shops and entertainment facilities, which would be established by local companies for investment.

The project would also enjoy a green area of 38,250 square metres.

The project would also see establishment of two sites for sports equipped with physical sports machines and two areas for children games/rides, 75 shades at different areas and 140 parking lots among other facilities.

The project is expected to be completed by April 2023. – ONA

MEETING

Sayyid Fahd receives Russian Foreign Minister

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers received on Wednesday Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation.

The two sides reviewed the bilateral relations and ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries. They also highlighted the international efforts exerted to settle various issues to serve the interests of all parties.

In his turn, the Russian Foreign Minister underscored the importance of this visit, affirming his country's appreciation for Oman's foreign policy.

The meeting was attended by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister and Ilya Morgunov, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the Sultanate of Oman. – ONA

ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENTS

'Oman has taken steps for preservation of resources'

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate, represented by the Environment Authority, participated in the regional consultations of West Asian Multi-Stakeholder, on 11 and 12 May as part of the regional consultations ahead of the convening of the international meeting of "Stockholm + 50 to be held under the theme "A Healthy Planet for Prosperity of All; Our Responsibility, Opportunity".

Dr. Abdullah Ali Al Ameri, Chairman of Environment Authority represented the Sultanate in the consultations.

Dr. Al Ameri gave a speech in which he said that the Sultanate has taken several steps at the institutional, legal and technical level since the 1972 -Stockholm Conference, through the government sector, the private sector and the civil associations.

The Sultanate has signed almost all environment agreements such as the agreement of protection of biodiversity and Paris Convention. Joining the international agreements represents conventions and treaties achievable through community efforts, whether from the side of the civil associations and voluntary teams or the individuals and companies, he added.

An early initiative

The Sultanate is one of the countries that has taken an early initiative to ensure sustainability and preservation of resources, he said, adding that the objectives of sustainable development have been ratified and approved as a reference for creating the required balance in the relation between man and nature in the Sultanate of Oman.

He said that the Sultanate is extending due efforts to avoid the potential impacts of climate change on the natural, economic and social systems.

He said that the Sultanate observes the integrated management of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and waste and has signed a number of related agreements to this effect.

The Sultanate is keen for developing and further boosting the integrated national programme for control and surveillance of ambient air quality.

This programme aimed to establish and develop a national integrated system for surveillance and control of environment pollutants as to ensure the safety of environment , control pollutions and to preserve the various ecosystems.

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

SALE OF DIESEL FUEL OIL AL KAMIL POWER PLANT

Al Kamil Power Company SAOG (under liquidation) is offering for sale of approximately 9,800,000 litres of diesel fuel at two of its storage tanks located at its Plant Site, as part of winding down its business operations in the Sultanate of Oman. The entire diesel fuel oil supply will be sold on an "as is where is" basis to the highest bidder and the Company invites local companies in the Sultanate of Oman to purchase the entire supply.

The diesel fuel oil has been recently tested and these test results will be made available to potential bidders. Test results indicate that the diesel fuel oil being stored is acceptable for use. Bidders may wish to either rely on these results in determining the price they are willing to pay or undertake their own tests, at their cost. Interested bidders are encouraged to arrange a Plant Site visit to familiarize themselves with the diesel fuel oil system, diesel fuel oil removal and transporting logistics. Details regarding arrangements for a site visit are described in the tender document.

Bids must be submitted by the close of business (05 pm GST) on May 25th, 2022.

Tender documents which include further detailed information and data about the diesel fuel oil system can be obtained by downloading the Tender Document from the Company's website at:

http://www.alkamilpower.com/Tenders/Tender_Sale_of_Fuel_Oil.pdf

The bid price for the diesel fuel oil shall be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to:

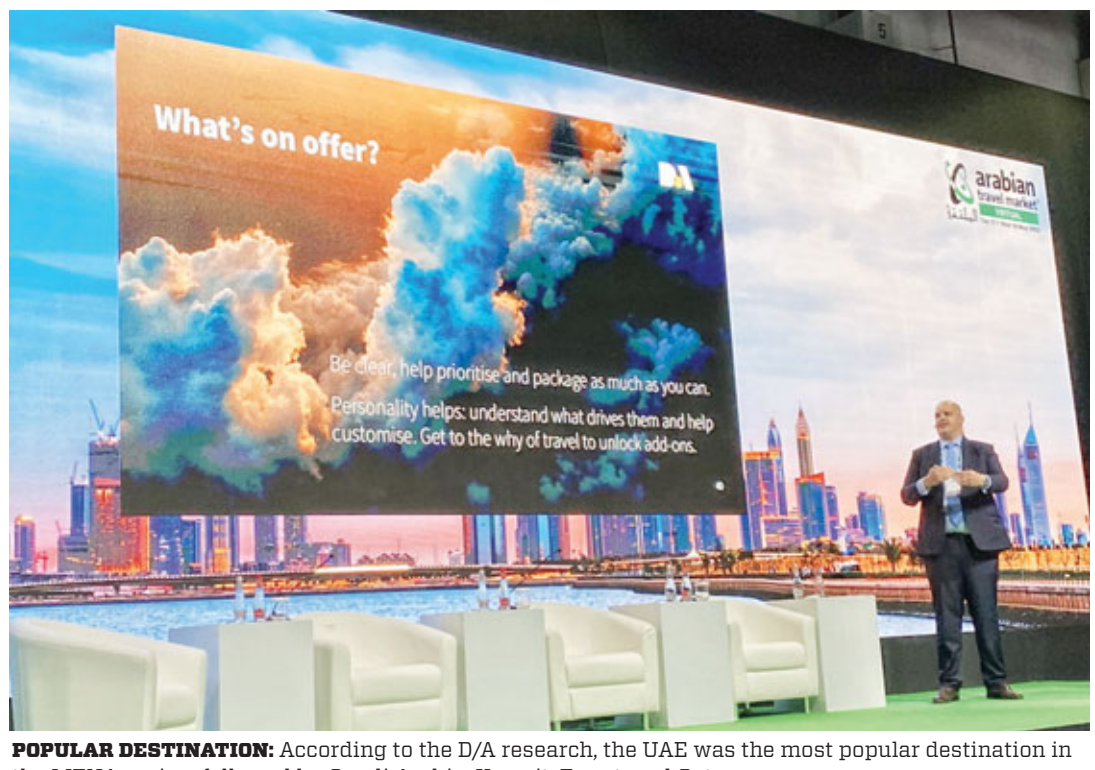
Al Kamil Power Company SAOG
(under liquidation)
Office No. 53G, Landmark Building,
5th Floor
(Located Opposite Al Amine Mosque
and next to Fraser Suites Hotel)
Bousher, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

One of Two Diesel Fuel Oil Storage Tanks at Al Kamil Plant Site

WORLD

Middle East travellers plan for new travel experiences in 2022, says expert at ATM

In Europe, the UK was the most popular destination, followed by France, Germany and Italy



POPULAR DESTINATION: According to the D/A research, the UAE was the most popular destination in the MENA region, followed by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, and Qatar. — Supplied picture

DUBAI: GCC travellers are looking to make up for lost time when it comes to travel, with the anticipation of new experiences dominating conversations, according to research revealed at the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2022 by leading consumer intelligence company D/A.

The research is based on the analysis of over four million social media posts and comments from more than two million Arabic-speaking unique users in the GCC. The number of travel conversations and posts about travel increased by 110% and 151%, respectively, between 2019 and 2021.

Speaking on the ATM Global Stage on Tuesday, 10 May, Paul Kelly, Managing Partner, D/A, said: "Travel conversations increased to over 1.3 million in 2021, underscoring the willingness by Arabic speakers in the GCC to travel, regardless of age or nationality. We are ultimately witnessing the pent-up demand from the last two years coming to the fore as borders reopen, flights are back on track and restrictions are lifted."

GCC travellers have a vital role in tourism recovery, a direct result of their spending power. According to the UNWTO, GCC travellers spend 6.5 times more than the global average, with 40% of GCC travellers spending more than AED36,700 on their last trip to Europe. Travellers from Saudi Arabia are reportedly the highest travel spenders globally.

"Overall, when it comes to the GCC traveller, the conversations indicate that something new is the order of the moment. Even in the familiar, a new experience is at the top of the wish list for those intent on travelling soon – a huge change from what we have seen in the past year or two," Kelly added.

In terms of holiday preference, the consensus is on escaping and breaking free and discovering new experiences, which many have been unable to do in the last two years. Those in the younger age groups were keen on shopping and enjoying local flavours, while the older groups were more focused on staying closer to nature and relaxing. Having fun was a mainstay; however, mid-career professionals have a lot of work travel lined up.

Holiday destinations favoured by GCC travellers followed the global google trend, which saw a spike in the search terms 'staycation' in 2020, which was representative of the number of people from GCC countries looking to vacation locally.

According to the D/A research, the UAE was the most popular destination in the MENA region, followed by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Egypt, and Qatar.

In Europe, the UK was the most popular destination, followed by France, Germany and Italy, with Switzerland rounding out the top five list.

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SHOT WHILE COVERING CLASHES

Al-Jazeera news correspondent killed in Palestine

JENIN: According to the Qatar-based broadcaster, reporter Shireen Abu Akleh was shot while covering clashes in the city of Jenin in the West Bank.

A reporter for the Al Jazeera network died after being wounded while covering clashes in the West Bank, the broadcaster and Palestinian officials said Wednesday.

The broadcaster identified the reporter as Shireen Abu Akleh, 51, who was a prominent figure in Al Jazeera's Arabic news service.

"What we know for now is that the Palestinian Health Ministry has announced her death," Al Jazeera's Nida Ibrahim said in a statement posted to the broadcaster's website.

"As you can imagine, this is a shock to the journalists who have been working with her," Ibrahim added.

Israel offers joint investigation into death

The shooting reportedly took place during an army raid in the West Bank city of Jenin.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid said Israel has "offered the Palestinians a joint pathological investigation into the sad death" of Abu Akleh.

"Journalists must be protected in conflict zones and we all have a responsibility to get to the truth," he added in a post on Twitter.

An Agence France-Presse (AFP) photographer, who was also at the scene, reported that she had been killed as a result of gunfire from Israeli forces.

In a statement, Israel's military said it carried out a counterterrorism operation at a refugee camp in Jenin on Wednesday morning in an effort to detain suspects accused of terrorist activities. DW

NO FACE MASKS REQUIRED

European Union drops air travel face mask mandate

LONDON: Face masks will not have to be worn in airports and on flights in Europe, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) said on Wednesday.

The easing of the measure will be effective as of May 16. However, authorities stressed masks were still the most effective way to stop the spread of COVID-19.

"From next week, face masks will no longer need to be mandatory in air travel in all cases, broadly aligning with the changing requirements of national authorities across Europe for public transport," the EASA said in a statement.

What EU authorities said about masks and air travel

"It is a relief to all of us that we are finally reaching a stage in the pandemic where we can start to relax the health safety measures," EASA Executive Director Patrick Ky said. "For many passengers, and also aircrew members, there is a strong desire for masks to no longer be a mandatory part of air travel. We are now at the start of that process."

Italy, France, Bulgaria and other European countries already been easing or ending their COVID measures.

In April, several US airlines said face masks were no longer necessary on board after a federal judge in Florida ruled that the mandate on public transport was unlawful.

"While mandatory mask-wearing in all situations is no longer recommended, it is important to be mindful that together with physical distancing and good hand hygiene it is one of the best methods of reducing transmission," ECDC Director Andrea Ammon cautioned. From next week, face mask rules are expected to vary, with the ECDC recommending airlines encourage passengers to use mouth coverings on flights to or from destinations where wearing a mask on public transport is still required. DW

BREXIT

UK threatens to scrap parts of Brexit deal over N Ireland

LONDON: UK government increased threats to scrap parts of the Brexit agreement on Wednesday, claiming the deal is blocking the formation of a new government in Northern Ireland.

It sets Britain and the European Union on a collision course once again.

In the latest example of differences between the two sides, UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss said the British government would "not shy away from taking action" if it is unable to come to an agreement with the bloc.

The EU warned that renegotiating the legally binding agreement "is not an option." Any move by the UK to unilaterally try to rewrite the deal would prompt legal action from the EU.

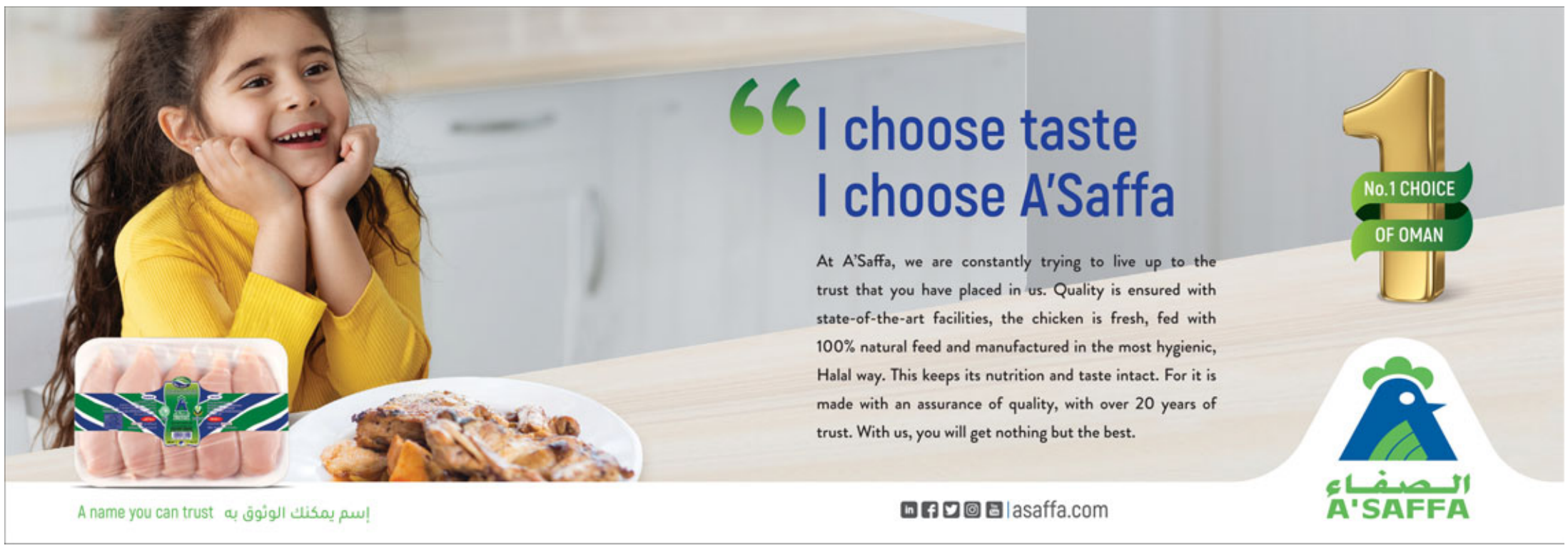
Northern Ireland protocol the sticking point

London and Brussels are at loggerheads over the Northern Ireland protocol, a deal which the British government agreed to before it left the bloc but now says is unworkable.

The deal effectively creates a customs border in the sea between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom to preserve the province's open land border with EU member state Ireland. The arrangement meant keeping the Irish border free of customs posts and other checks, because an open border is a key pillar of the Good Friday Agreement that ended decades of violence in Northern Ireland. Instead, there are checks on some goods entering Northern Ireland from the rest of Britain.

The arrangement is opposed by some of Northern Ireland's British unionists, who say the new checks undermine their British identity due to the barrier they create with the rest of the UK. The Democratic Unionist Party — which came second in last week's Northern Ireland Assembly election and sees itself as defending Britishness and Ulster Protestant culture against Irish nationalism while also being pro-Brexit — is non-compliant over helping form a government until the arrangements are substantially altered or ditched entirely.

Meanwhile, the vice president of Sinn Fein — which won the most seats in last week's elections — Michelle O'Neill warned earlier this week she "will not be held to ransom" by Brexit disputes holding up the formation of a new power-sharing government in Northern Ireland. DW



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ECONOMIC CRISIS

Violence rages in Sri Lanka, eight killed in Negombo clash

COLOMBO: As Sri Lanka faces one of the worst economic crisis accompanied by ongoing protests, eight persons have lost their lives during the violent clash in Negombo on Monday.

According to the Sri Lanka Police, the protesters had staged a demonstration in support of Sri Lankan Prime Minister, Mahinda Rajapaksa, reported the Colombo Page. Several vehicles and properties of political leaders were damaged well.

As per Police Media Division, six deaths were reported from the Western Province of Sri Lanka while two deaths were recorded from the Southern Province.

Amongst those who lost their lives included Amarakeerthi Athukorala, an SLPP parliamentarian along with his security guard. Reportedly, they died by suicide after a mob of protesters had surrounded Athukorala's vehicle in Nittambuwa, reported the Colombo Page.

Further, following an explosion of a tear gas canister, a 28-year-old Sri Lankan Police Inspector lost his life upon his admission to the Colombo National Hospital.

Apart from that, a youth was also shot at by the MP.

A.V. Sarath Kumara, the chairman of Imaduwa Pradeshiya Sabha, succumbed to his injuries during an attack on his residence on Monday and died from heart attack, reported the Colombo Page.

Meanwhile, the 216 individuals who were injured in the clashes held in Colombo have been admitted to the Colombo National Hospital. According to hospital sources, five of the injured are being treated in the Intensive Care Unit.

Moreover, amidst escalating conflicts, Sri Lanka's Ministry of Defense has announced that the Armed Forces have been ordered to kill anyone who robs or destroys public property or causes injury to others. ANI

CYCLONIC STORM ASANI

Cyclone Asani likely to weaken into a depression

NEW DELHI: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday said that the severe Cyclonic Storm 'Asani' weakened into a 'cyclonic storm' and is likely to become a depression by Thursday morning.

"The Severe Cyclonic Storm 'Asani' over westcentral Bay of Bengal moved west-northwestwards with a speed of 12 kmph during the past 6 hours, weakened into a Cyclonic Storm," said IMD. "Asani lay centered at 0230 hours IST of May 11, over the same region near latitude 15.6°N and longitude 81.3°E, about 60 km south-southeast of Machilipatnam (Andhra Pradesh), 180 km south-southwest of Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), 310 km southwest of Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), 550 km southsouthwest of Gopalpur (Odisha) and 660 km southwest of Puri (Odisha)," said IMD.

The cyclone is very likely to move nearly northwestwards for the next few hours and reach Westcentral Bay of Bengal close to Andhra Pradesh coast.

"Thereafter, it's very likely to recurve slowly north-northeastwards, move along Machilipatnam, Narsapur, Yanam, Kakinada, Tuni and Visakhapatnam coasts and emerge into westcentral Bay of Bengal off North Andhra Pradesh coasts by today evening," said IMD. The weather forecasting agency said that further the cyclone is likely to move northeastwards towards northwest Bay of Bengal and is likely to weaken gradually into a depression by May 12 morning.

The cyclonic storm is under the continuous surveillance of Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) at Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

IMD also predicted light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall at a few places with isolated extremely heavy falls is likely over coastal Andhra Pradesh and heavy rainfall at isolated places is likely over coastal Odisha and adjoining coastal West Bengal on Wednesday.

It further predicted the gale wind speed reaching 80-90 kmph gusting to 100 kmph is prevailing around the system center over Westcentral Bay of Bengal. It would gradually decrease become 60-70 Kmph gusting to 80 Kmph by today evening over the same region. Further, it would decrease to 40-50 Kmph gusting to 60 Kmph over Westcentral Bay of Bengal on May 12.

"Squally wind speed reaching 55-65 kmph gusting to 75 kmph is prevailing along and off Andhra Pradesh coast. It is likely to increase and become gale wind speed reaching 70-80 kmph gusting to 90 kmph in the morning hours of 11th May along & off Andhra Pradesh coast (Krishna, East & West Godavari, Yanam of Puducherry UT and Visakhapatnam districts) and further, it would decrease to 45-55 Kmph gusting to 65 Kmph over the region," it said.

IMD said that the squally wind speed reaching 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph is likely to continue along and off Odisha coast and West Bengal coast on May 11 and 12.

The sea condition is likely to be high over westcentral and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal on May 11 and very rough to rough over the same region on May 12.

It also advised suspending fishing operations over westcentral Bay of Bengal on May 11 and over the northwest Bay of Bengal till May 12.

Meanwhile, traffic movement on Kakinada - Uppada Beach Road in Andhra Prades is closed in wake of Cyclone Asani

"Pitch road is damaged, we put up 2 check-posts in our limits to control vehicular movement. Roads are getting damaged. We are stopping everybody from taking this route," said Andhra police. ANI

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SCRAP FOR SALE

Muscat Gases Company SAOG announces
the sale of scrap in its branch located in Rusayl Industrial Area @ Street No. 16 as follows

- Iron expired cooking gas cylinders are (unusable) set.
- Brass valves for cooking gas cylinders (damaged and unusable) set.
- other scrap.

Those wishing to buy must visit the company's branch and submit bids according to the company's document in a sealed envelope with red wax. The value of the document is 50 OMR (non refundable).

- Customers can submit their bids to buy all the supplies or individually.
- Bids are deposited in a closed box located at the head office.
- The deadline for receiving bids is on May 19, 2022 at 4 pm.
- The bids will be sorted on May 24, 2022.

For serious buyers, please call
22526900/ 71590684
during official working days from 8 am in until 4 pm.

REINSTATING TRUMP

Jack Dorsey backs Elon Musk's plan to reverse Donald Trump's Twitter ban

NEW YORK: Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey has supported Elon Musk's plan to reinstate Donald Trump's account, asserting that the decision to ban the former US President was "a failure."

Trump was permanently suspended from Twitter following the January 6 Capitol Riots for violating the platform's rules against violence incitement, a decision the company has said was taken by then CEO Jack Dorsey. On Tuesday, Elon Musk said that he would restore Trump's banned account on Twitter if his deal to acquire the company is completed.

"I think it was a morally bad decision to be clear and foolish in the extreme," he said at a Future of the Car event hosted by the Financial Times. Backing Musk's comment, Twitter co-founder said that the decision to issue the ban on Trump's account was "a failure."

"I do agree. There are exceptions (CSE, illegal behaviour, spam or network manipulation, etc), but generally permanent bans are a failure of ours and don't work, which I wrote about here after the event (and called for a resilient social media protocol)," he Tweeted.

He re-shared a January 13, 2021 tweet that stated he did "not celebrate or feel pride in our having to ban" Trump from the platform but had "made a decision with the best information we had based on threats to physical safety both on and off Twitter." Musk, the world's richest man Musk called the ban a "morally bad decision," saying permanent bans undermine trust in Twitter.

"If there are tweets that are wrong and bad, those should be either deleted or made invisible, and a suspension--a temporary suspension--is appropriate, but not a permanent ban," said Musk.

"I do think it was not correct to ban Donald Trump. I think that was a mistake ... It alienated a large part of the country and did not ultimately result in Donald Trump not having a voice," he added. ANI

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SPORTS

Al Harthy ready to kick-start Elms season at Imola with podium bid

Al Harthy and Oman Racing team-mates were prevented from challenging for silverware after lap one contact

Times News Service

EUROPEAN LE MANS SERIES: The coming weekend's action will also mark the Omani's first ever visit to the legendary Italian track.

MUSCAT: Oman's Ahmad Al Harthy is preparing to firmly kick-start his maiden European Le Mans Series campaign when round two of the championship takes place at Imola in Italy this weekend, 14th/15th May, where the Oman Racing driver is eyeing nothing less than GTE podium success.

Having showcased fantastic speed and competitiveness during the opening ELMS event of the season at Circuit Paul Ricard in France last month, Al Harthy and Oman Racing team-mates Sam De Haan and Marco Sorensen were prevented from challenging for silverware after lap one contact.

With De Haan at the wheel of the No.69 Aston Martin Vantage GTE at the time of the incident, leading the class early on after Al Harthy had qualified an excellent second fastest, damage to the steering caused by contact from an errant LMP3 class car led to instant retirement.

Frustrating to say the least for the entire Oman Racing team, which had performed so impressively during the build-up to the first four-hour race of the season, ELMS debutant Al Harthy was still very happy with the pace and competitiveness shown.

While heading to Autodromo Internazionale Enzo e Dino Ferrari having to mount a fightback where the GTE championship standings are concerned, confidence is high within Oman Racing of a suitably strong weekend and Al Harthy is determined to challenge for his first ELMS podium.

The coming weekend's action will also mark the Omani's first ever visit to the legendary Italian track, a challenge he is looking forward to as the team – which carries support from the Oman Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth, OQ, Omantel and MHD-ITICS – puts the luckless dramas of round one firmly in the past and focuses instead on success going forward.

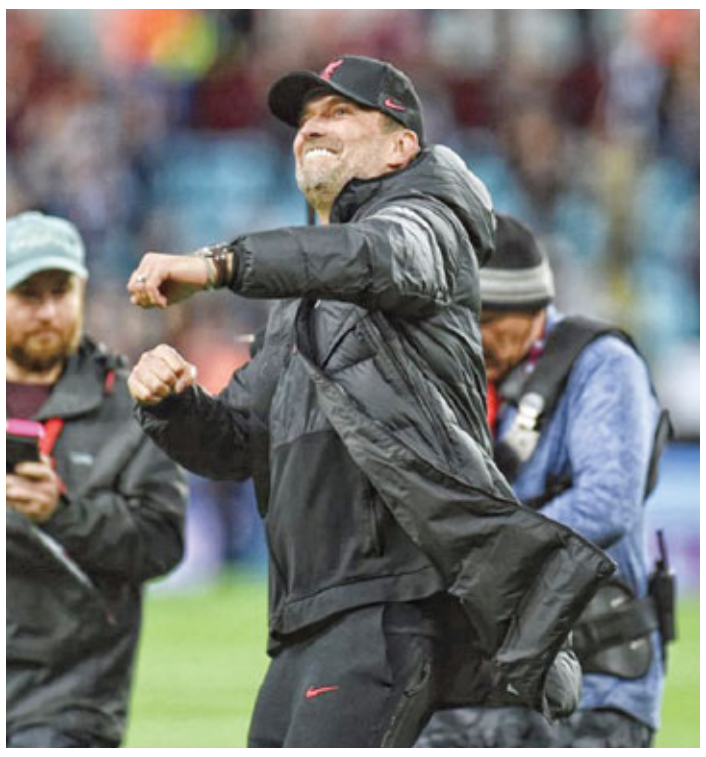
"I've no doubt our car will be strong again for Imola, as it was at Paul Ricard, and Marco, Sam and I will be competitive and able to push for a strong result and give a real kick-start to our season", said Al Harthy, "In qualifying and race trim we were very strong in France and I know the TF Sport guys, who prepare the car, will do an amazing job again as always.

"I can't wait to race at Imola for the first time, it's such a famous track and it's always great being faced with a new challenge. We were able to learn a lot about the GTE car at Paul Ricard so hopefully that will give us a solid base to build from at the weekend. Hopefully we can fight for our first podium in the ELMS at Imola and proudly fly the flag for Oman there."

Opening free practice and a dedicated session for bronze graded drivers will take place at Imola on Friday, 13th May, ahead of a second practice session on Saturday, 14th May, which will lead in to qualifying at 14.05 local time.

PREMIER LEAGUE

Liverpool keep pressure on Manchester City after win against Aston Villa



LONDON: Liverpool on Tuesday night kept the pressure on Premier League leaders Manchester City after the Reds claimed a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Aston Villa.

With this win, Liverpool are now level with Manchester City at the top of the Premier League table. Despite going behind early on, Jurgen Klopp's side triumphed at Villa Park thanks to goals from Joel Matip and Sadio Mane and are now on 86 points having played a match more than City.

All eyes will now be on Man City to see how they respond during their trip to Wolverhampton Wanderers on Wednesday night.

If they manage to claim a fourth straight league win, they will restore their three-point advantage at the top of the table with both title rivals having two matches left to play.

In fact, City will play twice before Liverpool are in league action again, with an away fixture at seventh-placed West Ham United looming for the champions on Sunday.

Liverpool take on Chelsea in the FA Cup Final on Saturday before resuming their Premier League programme at Southampton on Tuesday, 17 May.

There will be midfield concerns for Klopp for the final matches of the campaign as Fabinho was forced off on the 30-minute mark at Villa Park because of injury. ANI

ITALIAN OPEN

Novak Djokovic beats Karatsev in opener; Felix, Shapovalov enter round 3

ROME: Novak Djokovic's bid to retain his World No. 1 status enjoyed a solid start on Tuesday at the Italian Open 2022 in Rome.

The five-time champion brushed past Aslan Karatsev, 6-3, 6-2 in the second round at the ATP Masters 1000 event. The top seed must reach the semi-finals to prevent Daniil Medvedev from taking his spot at the top of the ATP Rankings on Monday, and the Serbian's all-round performance against Karatsev represented an impressive start to that mission.

Djokovic's return game was at its relentless best as he broke the World No. 35's serve four times on his way to a comfortable win on centre court.

Later, Felix Auger-Aliassime had his back against it literally and figuratively, but the Canadian star found a way to win.

The eighth seed rallied past in-form Spaniard Alejandro Davidovich Fokina 4-6, 7-6(2), 6-2 after three hours and two minutes to reach the third round in Rome.

Another Canadian, 13th seed Denis Shapovalov, defeated Georgian Nikoloz Basilashvili 6-4, 7-6(5). The lefty will challenge third seed Rafael Nadal or big-serving American John Isner for a place in the quarter-finals.

Shapovalov only faced one break point against 2021 Indian Wells finalist Basilashvili and he saved it. The 23-year-old won 85 per cent of his first-serve points in his one-hour, 40-minute victory. ANI

CRICKET

Oman Cricket's Chairman's XI wins Friendship Cup Cricket Tournament

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The 'Friendship Cup Cricket Tournament 2022' was held at the Oman Cricket Academy between April 22 and 29, 2022. It was organized as part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' - an initiative celebrating the 75 years of Indian independence. 4 teams took part, with Oman Cricket's Chairman's XI joining the sides representing the embassies of India, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

The competition was inaugurated on April 22 by Paul Sheridan, Vice-Chairman Oman Cricket along with the ambassadors of the other three nations to the Sultanate.

OC's Chairman's XI won all their games in the league stage to set up a showdown with the Indian Embassy team in the final. In it, the latter posted a first innings score of 103 in 15 overs. The run chase was a nail-biting affair and in the end, the Chairman's XI clinched a last ball victory to take home the inaugural 'Friendship Cup'.

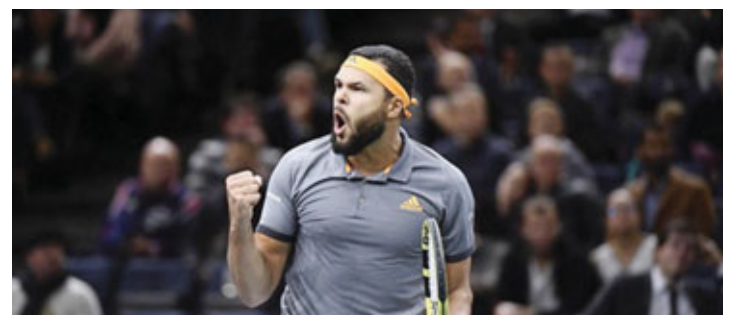
Speaking of the overall experience, Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to Oman said, "This unique tournament saw riveting cricketing action, with amateur diplomat-cricketers showcasing impressive skills with both bat and ball but more importantly, it was a beautiful show of sportsmanship and camaraderie and also gave the families from respective countries a chance to come together and enjoy the sporting entertainment".

Pankaj Khimji, Chairman Oman Cricket added, "It was an honor and a lot of fun to host this event at the Oman Cricket Academy. I thank everyone involved in making it a success, with a special mention to the families of those that took the field. My appreciation also extends to all the spectators that turned up to cheer us on. Looking forward to another edition very soon!".

The tournament managed to capture the interest of locals and expatriates in the region alike, while also serving to strengthen the ties between the nations involved.

FRENCH OPEN

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Gilles Simon receive French Open wildcards



PARIS: French Open organisers on Tuesday announced the wildcards allocated for the qualifying tournament (May 16 to 20) and for the main draw of the singles tournaments for women and men (May 22 to June 5) at Roland Garros 2022.

Three Frenchmen who have cracked the Top 10 of the ATP Rankings lead the main-draw wild card recipients for Roland Garros. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Gilles Simon and Lucas Pouille received invitations into the tournament's main draw, as did Gregoire Barrere, Manuel Guinard and Corentin Moutet. Former world No. 5 Tsonga, who announced that Roland Garros will be his final tournament, reached the semi-finals at the clay-court major in 2013 and 2015. The 37-year-old holds a 28-12 record at his home tournament.

Simon, who said last week he will retire at the end of the season, will compete at Roland Garros for the 17th time in the past 18 years. The former World No. 6 has made the fourth round at the event three times.

Qualifying wild cards were awarded to Arthur Cazaux, Sean Cuenin, Gabriel Debru, Arthur Fils, Evan Furness, Sascha Gueymard Wayenburg, Laurent Lokoli, Clement Tabur and Luca Van Assche. ANI

MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 4159.32 points, up by 0.11 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.07 per cent at 472.97 points. A'Saffa Foods, up 9.9 per cent, was the top gainer while, Barka Desalination, down 2.78 per cent, was the top loser.

Trade, investment top Omani delegation agenda on India trip

Indian investment in Oman which topped $7.5 billion in 2022 was one of the key topics discussed by the participants in the meeting with Oman's Minister of Commerce and Industry noting the great interest expressed in the success of the Invest Easy portal

Times News Service

MUSCAT: High-level talks with key Indian businesses and government organisations are on the agenda of Qais Al Yousef, the Oman's Minister of Commerce and Industry, during his ongoing trip to India as part of efforts to encourage more growth and investment in Oman.

Accompanied by senior management from Oman Investment Authority, Oman Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones and Madayn, Al Yousef will hold high-level talks with senior management from Tata Steel, Hitachi, HCL, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and NITI Aayog, the Government of India's leading policy think tank.

Indian investment in Oman which topped US$7.5 billion in 2022 was one of the key topics discussed by meeting participants with Al Yousef noting the great interest expressed in the success of the Invest Easy portal.

The minister said: "Since April 2021, we have seen a 94.8 per cent increase in the number of Indian businesses registering with Invest Easy, this is up from 450 in 2019 to 877 in 2021. This uptick shows the great faith Indian companies have in Oman. A remarkable achievement that has been made possible thanks to the opportunities opened up by Oman Vision 2040, which, while future-focused, is already having a positive impact on attracting investment into Oman and our economy in general."

Cutting red tape is Invest Easy's one-stop-shop for investors, issuing licenses from ten leading authorities and approvals for more than 1,500 economic activities in one single e-transaction. Since the launch of the ministry's new service in April 2021, over 196,000 licenses have been issued, 23,000 of which to foreign investors, a year-on-year rise of 305 per cent.

Part of the delegation is Redha bin Juma Al Saleh, the chairman of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which also held a series of meetings with Indian businesses. A number of private sector companies are also a part of the delegation.

A number of Omani business owners and their counterparts from India held bilateral meetings that discussed the conclusion of trade and investment partnerships The Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) is also participating in the meetings along with a commercial delegation which includes a number of business owners from various economic sectors in the Sultanate, alongside the government delegation that is currently visiting India. The private sector delegation met with a number of investment companies to discuss the different investment opportunities in the various sectors of food security, industry, energy, logistics, and construction.

"The chamber was keen that the Omani commercial delegation that is currently visiting India includes a number of business owners in the Sultanate in order to directly meet their Indian counterparts to be able to achieve valuable partnerships that will have positive reactions on raising trade and investment exchange levels between the two sides, based on the role entrusted to the private sector to work towards achieving these goals," said Al Saleh.

UNION OF ARAB SECURITIES AUTHORITIES

Meeting explores means of developing Arab capital markets

MUSCAT: The Union of Arab Securities Authorities (UASA) board held its 16th meeting to discuss a spectrum of topics, including developing capital markets, facing systemic risks and supporting liquidity and financial sustainability.

The event also covered cyber risks, fraud risks, financial technology, investor education and awareness and financial inclusion.

The meeting, which was hosted by the Capital Market Authority (CMA), came within the framework of the efforts exerted by member states to enhance cooperation and upgrade the legislative and regulatory level of Arab stock markets to achieve justice, efficiency and transparency.

It aimed to unify efforts to reach effective levels of control over transactions in the markets, as well as to highlight a mechanism for facing challenges and changes in the regional and international arenas.

The board also discussed the annual report of the Union for 2021 and the most important achievements that were achieved during the first year of the strategic plan 2021-2025, especially the progress of completing the work related to the multilateral memorandum of understanding for the exchange of information among member states. The board also reviewed the report of the auditors and the final audited accounts of the union for the fiscal year 2021.

Growth was recorded in 2021 and it reflects the indicators of global markets. The data issued by the World Federation of Exchanges indicate that the international financial markets have achieved significant increases in the total market value by reaching $124.6 trillion, compared to $106.8 trillion in 2020, constituting a rise of 16.7 per cent.

In terms of Arab financial markets, the market value went up at the end of 2021 compared to its 2020 level, reaching about $3.6 trillion, comprising an increase of 16.1 per cent. -ONA

ZOHO CORP

New unified marketing platform for businesses in the Sultanate

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Zoho Corp, a leading global technology company, announced Zoho Marketing Plus, new unified software that combines a powerful mix of marketing capabilities to provide stakeholders across the entire marketing organisation with a single, shared view of critical information for improved collaboration and results.

The new software packs an innovative mix of marketing tools that help marketing professionals better understand customers, make more informed decisions, and ultimately drive better results, growth, and revenue.

"Consumers and digital marketing continue to evolve at warp-speed, and marketers are struggling to keep up. It's becoming increasingly difficult to properly manage multiple campaigns, channels, customer profiles, data, and ROI," said Hyther Nizam, President, Middle East and Africa at Zoho.

"The complexity of data and personalisation at scale only raises pressure on marketers and CMOs to deliver effective campaigns and revenue. By eliminating redundancies and confusion arising from multiple siloed solutions, Zoho Marketing Plus maximises productivity and teamwork, allowing marketers to stay nimble and collaborative amid evolving customer needs. When marketers aren't bogged down by operations, they can deliver creative campaigns that promote meaningful relationships between the brand and customers."

Hyther Nizam, President, Middle East and Africa at Zoho

The new software packs an innovative mix of marketing tools that help marketing professionals better understand customers, make more informed decisions, and ultimately drive better results, growth, and revenue

The new platform boasts advanced features including a centralized workplace, known as 'Brand Studio', AI-powered data analysis, integration with third-party solutions, a unified digital brand asset creation and repository, improved collaboration across campaigns as well as an accurate and real-time measurement for improved business intelligence and customer impact.

Designed to boost overall visibility, Zoho Marketing Plus combines the capabilities of multiple Zoho applications including Campaigns, Social, webinars, Analytics, Marketing Automation, Workdrive, PageSense, Survey, and Backstage. This newest iteration of Marketing Plus will continue to evolve through tighter integrations with existing Zoho tools such as Cliq, as well as new apps including LandingPage, a no-code page builder that enables marketers to create high-converting website landing pages in minutes without needing a developer-level skillset.

STATISTICS

India's coal production rises by 29% year-on-year in April

NEW DELHI: India's coal production rose to 66.58 million tonnes in April 2022 from 51.62 million tonnes in the same month last year, showing 29 per cent year-on-year increase, the government data showed.

In April 2022, Coal India Ltd (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Ltd (SCCL) and Captive mines/others registered a growth of 27.64 per cent, 9.59 per cent and 59.98 per cent by producing 53.47 MT, 5.32 MT and 7.79 MT of coal respectively, according to the provisional statistics of the Ministry of Coal.

Coal despatch increased by 8.66 per cent to 71.30 MT in April 2022 from 65.62 MT in April 2020. During April 2022, CIL, SCCL and Captive/Others registered a growth of 6.01 per cent, 5.53 per cent and 35.69 per cent. -ANI

MARKET

MSX index ends higher

A'Saffa Foods, up 9.9 per cent, was the top gainer while, Barka Desalination, down 2.78 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4159.32 points, up by 0.11 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.07 per cent at 472.97 points. A'Saffa Foods, up 9.9 per cent, was the top gainer while, Barka Desalination, down 2.78 per cent, was the top loser.

Shares of Al Madina Takaful were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat were the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 377 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR1.78 million, with more than 6.72 million shares changing hands. Out of 47 traded securities, 9 advanced, 10 declined, and 28 remained unchanged. At the session, close foreign investors were net sellers for OMR177,000, followed by GCC & Arab investors for OMR85,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6622.51 points, up 0.24 per cent. Prices of HSBC Bank Oman, DIDIC, Oman & Emirates Investment and Ahli Bank were up by 2.78 per cent, 1.33 per cent, and 1.16 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman Qatar Insurance, Muscat Finance, Al Sharqia Investment and National Bank Oman were down by 1.38 per cent, 1.33 per cent, 1.06 per cent and 0.5 per cent respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 6112.22 points, up 0.34 per cent. Prices of A'Saffa Foods, Al Maha Ceramics, Jazeera Steel Products and Oman Cement were up by 9.9 per cent, 2.75 per cent, 1.62 per cent and 0.78 per cent respectively. Prices of Oman Fisheries, Al Anwar Ceramics and Voltamp Energy, and Salalah Mills were down by 1.74 per cent and 0.91 per cent respectively.

Services Index was up by 0.21 per cent before closing at 1627.15 points. Prices of Sembcorp - Preference Shares were up by 4.29 per cent respectively. Prices of Barka Desalination, Oman National Engineering, Oman Telecom and Renaissance Services - Preferential Shares were down by 2.78 per cent, 1.87 per cent, 0.47 per cent and 0.44 per cent respectively. – **United Securities**

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT STOCK EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,159.82	4,151.51	4,159.32	4,154.72	4.59	0.11
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,622.51	6,603.63	6,622.51	6,606.77	15.74	0.24
Industry Index	6,112.22	6,089.58	6,112.22	6,091.80	20.42	0.34
Services Index	1,627.90	1,622.93	1,627.15	1,623.79	3.36	0.21
MSX Shariah Index	474.00	472.38	472.97	472.63	0.34	0.07
MSX TR INDEX	5,240.05	5,229.59	5,239.42	5,233.64	5.78	0.11
FINANCIAL TR IDX	6,923.86	6,904.13	6,923.86	6,907.41	16.45	0.24
SERVICES TR IDX	1,677.50	1,672.37	1,676.72	1,673.26	3.46	0.21
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,343.46	6,319.96	6,343.46	6,322.26	21.19	0.34

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
6,724,427	1,783,553	377	22,258,139,408	9	10	28	47

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

REGULAR MARKET

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RO)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	364,500	190,883	21	0.528	0.528	0.520	0.524	0.510	0.014	2.745	0.528	0.510	0.528	0.100	28,820,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD	44,311	16,661	8	0.376	0.376	0.376	0.376	0.370	0.006	1.622	0.376	0.376	0.378	0.100	46,961,633
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	92,849	24,121	11	0.258	0.260	0.258	0.260	0.258	0.002	0.775	0.260	0.258	0.260	0.100	86,026,905
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSUR	278	100	1	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.350	0.350	0.000	0.000	0.360	0.340	0.360	0.100	35,000,000
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	5,000	715	1	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.142	0.142	0.000	0.000	0.143	0.141	0.145	0.100	12,070,000
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	11,300	1,944	4	0.172	0.172	0.172	0.172	0.172	0.000	0.000	0.172	0.171	0.173	0.100	34,400,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVST& FIN.	148,035	21,909	9	0.148	0.148	0.147	0.148	0.148	0.000	0.000	0.148	0.147	0.148	0.100	35,076,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	7,604	2,403	3	0.316	0.316	0.316	0.316	0.316	0.000	0.000	0.316	0.302	0.316	0.100	211,203,475
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	338,441	28,447	16	0.084	0.085	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.083	0.084	0.100	16,800,000
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	13,250	3,631	5	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.274	0.000	0.000	0.274	0.271	0.274	0.100	16,769,971
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	767,600	403,819	31	0.528	0.528	0.524	0.526	0.526	0.000	0.000	0.524	0.524	0.526	0.100	1,974,182,427
OM0000003398	SOHAR INT. BANK	376,532	41,304	13	0.110	0.110	0.109	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.109	0.109	0.110	0.100	328,906,852
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	15,112	4,991	12	0.330	0.332	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.000	0.000	0.330	0.330	0.336	0.100	214,811,596
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SER.	22,857	10,240	3	0.448	0.448	0.448	0.448	0.450	-0.002	-0.444	0.448	0.440	0.448	0.100	105,911,680
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	449,000	384,573	15	0.856	0.860	0.852	0.856	0.860	-0.004	-0.465	0.856	0.856	0.868	0.100	642,000,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	420,535	182,425	21	0.434	0.434	0.432	0.434	0.438	-0.004	-0.913	0.432	0.432	0.432	0.100	95,480,000
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV.	30,000	2,790	2	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.094	-0.001	-1.064	0.093	0.093	0.094	0.100	8,370,000
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	707,683	52,384	17	0.075	0.075	0.074	0.074	0.075	-0.001	-1.333	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.100	22,728,828
Total	18	3,814,887	1,373,338	193												

Parallel Market

ISIN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RO)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PAR VALUE	MARKET CAP
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	37,143	4,113	3	0.110	0.111	0.110	0.111	0.101	0.010	9.901	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.100	13,320,000
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	5,100	372	2	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.070	0.003	4.286	0.073	0.072	0.073	0.100	69,683,752
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	6,133	678	6	0.110	0.111	0.110	0.111	0.108	0.003	2.778	0.111	0.111	0.111	0.100	222,034,720
OM0000001509	DHOFAR INT.	13,493	2,047	2	0.150	0.153	0.150	0.152	0.150	0.002	1.333	0.153	0.150	0.153	0.100	62,205,440
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	93,000	7,440	2	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.079	0.001	1.266	0.080	0.075	0.080	0.100	37,694,911
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	419,010	36,363	26	0.086	0.089	0.086	0.087	0.086	0.001	1.163	0.087	0.087	0.087	0.100	10,603,125
OM0000001301	DHOFAR CAT'TLE	3,981	296	3	0.072	0.075	0.072	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.100	6,063,750
OM0000001319	ALUMINIUM PROD.	41,655	3,812	4	0.092	0.092	0.090	0.092	0.092	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.091	0.100	3,088,573
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INV.	4,392	307	1	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.072	0.072	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.075	0.100	5,828,143
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	51,806	6,009	4	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.116	0.000	0.000	0.116	0.116	0.117	0.100	347,576,767
OM0000002911	FINANCIAL CORP.	120	9	3	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.080	0.080	0.000	0.000	0.072	0.072	0.079	0.100	5,602,397
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV. H	30,400	2,280	5	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.073	0.075	0.100	15,000,000
OM0000003281	TAAGEER FINANCE	2,523	245	3	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.000	0.000	0.097	0.090	0.097	0.100	25,090,195
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	106,230	11,680	7	0.110	0.110	0.109	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.000	0.110	0.109	0.110	0.100	22,328,509
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	101,500	9,643	7	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.096	0.100	212,510,538
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	1,074,780	100,794	38	0.094	0.094	0.093	0.094	0.094	0.000	0.000	0.094	0.092	0.094	0.100	16,450,000
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	500	25	1	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.049	0.053	0.100	33,744,372
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	39,000	1,950	4	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.050	0.052	0.100	35,720,317
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	1,082	54	1	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.048	0.050	0.100	71,667,472
OM0000006912	AHLIA INSURANCE	30,000	9,060	1	0.302	0.302	0.302	0.302	0.302	0.000	0.000	0.302	0.000	0.302	0.100	30,200,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	70,020	13,867	14	0.198	0.199	0.198	0.198	0.199	-0.001	-0.503	0.199	0.199	0.199	0.100	321,937,378
OM0000006979	OMAN QATAR INSUR.	261,000	56,115	8	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.218	-0.003	-1.376	0.215	0.210	0.215	0.100	21,500,000
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	71,000	8,029	6	0.114	0.114	0.112	0.113	0.115	-0.002	-1.739	0.113	0.112	0.113	0.100	20,574,859
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	132,614	13,935	10	0.107	0.107	0.105	0.105	0.107	-0.002	-1.869	0.105	0.103	0.105	0.100	14,700,000
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	107,469	15,046	12	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.144	-0.004	-2.778	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.100	10,573,080
Total	25	2,703,951	304,169	173												

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

UAE to begin reducing tariffs on India's goods by 90%

NEW DELHI: Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy, said the implementation of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) signed between India and the UAE on February 18, came into force on May 1, with the arrival of the first imports exempted from tariffs.

In an interview with the Emirates News Agency (WAM), Al Marri said the CEPA between the two countries would help encourage trade by reducing custom tariffs by 90 per cent and increase non-oil trade from US$45 billion at end of 2021 to US$100 billion annually in the next five years.

The UAE chose India to sign the first CEPA, which underscores the strategic ties between the two countries. Since the launch of the CEPA programme as part of the 'Projects of the 50' initiative, the UAE began talks to sign CEPAs with several countries of strategic importance both regionally and internationally, aiming to sign eight agreements in 2022, he added.

On the annual growth of the trade exchange between the two countries and their targets over the next five years, Al Marri said the CEPA between the UAE and India will intensify their bilateral trade and add 1.7 per cent, or US$9 billion, to the UAE's GDP by 2030, increase the UAE's exports by 1.5 per cent and its imports by 3.8 per cent by 2030. It will also create some 140,000 jobs for talented people and those with specialist skills in the most promising sectors of the UAE economy by 2030.

On the new areas of cooperation, he stressed that the CEPA offers many advantages, including reducing and cancelling tariffs, widening access to markets, and creating opportunities in vital areas, such as aviation, environment, hospitality, logistics, investment, and construction, financial services, and digital trade.

The CEPA will offer numerous advantages for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the private sectors of both countries, Al Marri added. It represents a historically strategic step to promote economic integration and cooperation between the two countries and establish a solid foundation that will open new horizons between their business communities.

The CEPA will also open access to different markets and create new investments and opportunities in critical areas, including energy, environment, and digital trade, he said. The agreement covers 11 service sectors and more than 100 sub-sectors, including business services, professional services, accounting, real estate, advertising, communications, building and construction, related services, educational services, environmental services, financial services, insurance, social and health services, and travel and tourism service, he added.

Al Marri stressed that India is the UAE's largest trading partner in terms of non-oil exports, equivalent to 14 per cent of the country's total global exports, while the UAE is also India's third-largest trading partner and accounts for 40 per cent of its trade with Arab countries.

"This historic agreement aims to increase our non-oil bilateral trade to $100 billion annually over the next five years. India is also one of the UAE's largest investment partners, whether in terms of investments issued or received by the country," he added.

The most prominent commodities exported from the UAE to India and the commodities imported from India are mainly gold, diamonds and jewellery, machinery, electrical appliances, petroleum and plastics, and minerals that include iron, steel, and aluminium. - **WAM**

GAS INTERCONNECTION POLAND-LITHUANIA

How Lithuania is freeing itself from Russian energy

WARSAW: In a field near the Lithuanian village of Jauniunai, the yellow pipeline pops up behind a fence for just a few meters before diving back down underground. Otherwise, there is little to be seen of the 500-kilometre gas pipeline, which begins here and was recently completed to connect Lithuania and Poland.

More important than the few yellow pipes under a blue sky are the three compressor units on a factory site. They provide the necessary pressure to force the natural gas through the pipe over the Polish border.

The Gas Interconnection Poland-Lithuania (GIPL) is part of a larger plan to further integrate Lithuania and two other Baltic states, Latvia and Estonia, into the European Union's energy markets.

The Baltics used to be considered an "energy island" within the EU, said Romas Svedas, a former EU diplomat and Lithuania's deputy energy minister, now an independent consultant with a teaching position at Vilnius University.

"The significance is connecting the three Baltic states into the energy system and pipeline network of continental Europe," he told DW.

Not a moment too soon

The completed pipeline couldn't have come at a better time, especially for Poland.

What's the mission of the GIPL pipeline? Instead of transporting the fuel from the extraction site to the consumer, as the entire Russian pipeline network does,

it wants to enable energy trading and the exchange of resources between buyers. The market decides in which direction the gas is currently headed. Gas has been flowing through the GIPL pipeline in the direction of Poland since it went live at the beginning of May after Russia halted gas supplies to Poland and Bulgaria overnight at the end of April.

"The pipeline connects the Baltics with the rest of Europe," the president of the Lithuanian Confederation of Renewable Resources, Martynas Nagevicius, told DW. "That means it also connects Europe's problems with the Baltics."

With prices in western Europe rising at a record pace as the region moves away from Russian gas, he anticipates further price increases in the Baltics, too.

When construction began in 2015, it's unlikely anyone thought the pipe would be so urgently needed by the time it was completed. Now, at a ceremony to mark the launch, Poland's president, Andrzej Duda, thanked everyone who contributed to a punctual completion "at a time when we really need the gas supplies." Lithuanian President Gitanas Nauseda spoke of "energy blackmail from the East."

"Russia's war against Ukraine has confirmed our long experience: Russia was and is not a reliable partner," he said.

The Baltic path to energy independence

The Baltic states, on the other hand, solemnly announced on April 1 that they had already made themselves completely independent of Russian gas supplies. Now they mainly burn gas from the US and Norway. It is delivered via a liquefied natural gas terminal in Klaipeda, Lithuania, with a capacity to cover essentially the entire demand of the Baltic states. In addition, there are large underground gas storage facilities in Latvia, a pipeline connection to Finland in the north and now the new pipe in the south towards Poland.

According to the operating company, Lithuania's only oil refinery also hasn't touched Russian supplies since April. Lithuania has been pushing for an oil embargo, which the EU is now seriously considering, for some time.

In the Baltics, the issue of energy is inseparable from security policy: "We have a difficult history and difficult relations with our eastern neighbours," says Nagevicius. "Maybe we Lithuanians have always been a bit suspicious of Russia and Belarus. That's probably one reason why Lithuania has invested in energy security projects."

When Lithuania became the first constituent republic to break away from the Soviet Union in 1990 and unilaterally declared independence, Moscow stopped oil supplies. Gasoline was rationed and production had to be halted at some factories.

The embargo ended after three months when Lithuania agreed to political negotiations about its own future. Lithuania has always been sceptical of western European energy projects with Russia, especially the two Nord Stream pipelines to Germany.

The Baltic states' decision to freeze gas imports in the wake of Russia's attack on Ukraine was therefore not an impulsive one, but rather the result of years of preparation. - **DW**

LIFESTYLE

TOTAL LUNAR ECLIPSE 2022

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT BLOOD MOON

NORTH American Skygazers can see the moon take on a reddish tint on the night of May 15-16.

Almost a year after the last total lunar eclipse, the sight of the moon sliding into the shadows of the Earth returns and graces the sky. Viewers of most of North America, all of Latin America, Western Europe, most of Africa, and the East Pacific will see the Moon darken and acquire a reddish hue from the late evening of May 15 into the early hours of May 16.

The Moon charts a course via the southern half of Earth's shadow and is expected to ultimate for eighty-five minutes. Mid-eclipse will occur on May 16 (4:12 Universal Time), approximately 1 1/2 days earlier than the Moon reaches perigee, the point in its orbit when it's closest to the Earth. On eclipse night, the Moon will seem around 12 per cent larger than it does when it's at apogee (farthest from Earth in its orbit). However, in all likelihood, the most committed Moon watchers will observe this. The May 15-16 eclipse could be a fairly dark one, but look for a bit of brightening along the Moon's southern limb.

Viewers may have the possibility to see the summer Milky Way glowing nicely during totality as the overwhelming brightness of the full Moon is dimmed by Earth's shadow.

The stages of the eclipse occur simultaneously for everyone, but not everyone will see the full eclipse. Weather permitting, observers in the eastern half of North America will witness the entirety of the event starting on the evening of May 15th, with the partial eclipse phase beginning about two hours after sunset for the East Coast and around one hour after sunset for the Midwest. On the West Coast, the Moon will be about to enter totality as it rises around sunset. And in the Northwest, the Moon rises as the later stages of the eclipse are already underway. Most of Alaska will have to sit this one out, though.

South America will see the whole show, starting on the evening of May 15th, while viewers in western Europe and Africa will have to set their alarms to enjoy the event in the hours before dawn on May 16th. For observers in the British Isles, the Moon sets as it's fully immersed in Earth's dark, inner shadow, whereas viewers in New Zealand will catch the tail end of the event on the evening of May 16th, as the Moon rises while it's exiting Earth's shadow.

Viewers of most of North America, all of Latin America, Western Europe, most of Africa, and the East Pacific will see the Moon darken and acquire a reddish hue from the late evening of May 15 into the early hours of May 16.

Mechanics of a Lunar Eclipse

"A lunar eclipse happens when the Sun, Earth, and a full Moon form a near-perfect lineup in space, in what is known as syzygy," says Diana Hannikainen, Observing Editor at Sky & Telescope. The Moon slides into Earth's shadow, gradually darkening, until the entire lunar disk turns from silvery grey to an eerie dim orange or red. Then events unfold in reverse order, until the Moon returns to full brilliance. The whole process for the May 16th eclipse will take about five hours and 20 minutes.

The event has five stages, each with different things to watch.

(1) The Moon's leading edge enters the pale outer fringe of Earth's shadow: the penumbra. You probably won't notice anything until the Moon is about halfway across the penumbra.

The penumbra is the region where an astronaut standing on the Moon would see Earth covering only part of the Sun's face.

(2) The Moon's leading edge enters the umbra, the cone of Earth's shadow within which the Sun's completely hidden. You should notice a dramatic darkening on the leading edge of the lunar disk. With a telescope, you can watch the edge of the umbra slowly engulfing one lunar feature after another, as the entire sky begins to grow darker.

(3) The trailing edge of the Moon slips into the umbra for the beginning of total eclipse. But the Moon won't black out completely: It's sure to glow some shade of intense orange or red.

Why is this?

The Earth's atmosphere scatters and bends (refracts) sunlight that skims its edges, diverting some of it onto the eclipsed Moon. It's the same effect that happens at sunset. If you were on the Moon during a lunar eclipse, you'd see the Sun hidden by a dark Earth rimmed with the reddish light of all the sunrises and sunsets ringing the world at that moment.

The red umbral glow can be quite different from one eclipse to the next. Two main factors affect its brightness and hue. The first is simply how deeply the Moon goes into the umbra as it passes through; the center of the umbra is darker than its edges. The other factor is the state of Earth's atmosphere. If a major volcanic eruption has recently polluted the stratosphere with thin global haze, a lunar eclipse can be dark red, ashen brown, or occasionally almost black.

In addition, blue light is refracted through Earth's clear, ozone-rich upper atmosphere above the thicker layers that produce the red sunrise-sunset colors. This ozone-blue light tints the Moon also, especially near the umbra's edge. You'll need binoculars or a telescope to see this effect. - ANI

IN-PICTURES

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A Sherpa family's efforts to preserve traditional dance at foot of Mt. Qomolangma
Namkha (first from right) and other women in traditional Sherpa costumes prepare to perform the traditional Zhentang Sherpa dance in Zhentang Township, Dinggye County of Xigaze, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region. Xinhua

Overhaul for Datong-Qinhuangdao railway carried out for safe, smooth operations
Aerial picture shows workers maintaining the Datong section of the Datong-Qinhuangdao railway in north China's Shanxi Province. - Xinhua

German chancellor meets with visiting Belgian prime minister in Berlin
German Chancellor Olaf Scholz (right) greets visiting Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo at the German Chancellery in Berlin, capital of Germany.
Xinhua

Prices for petrol, diesel both rise to record highs in US
Petrol and diesel prices are displayed at a gas station in Millbrae, California, the United States. The national average prices for regular gasoline and diesel in the United States both climbed to fresh record highs Tuesday. Xinhua

Rituparna Sengupta walks on the ramp at Miss/Mrs India 2022
Actress Rituparna Sengupta with models walk on the ramp during a fashion show at Miss/Mrs India 2022 contest, in Kolkata on Sunday. ANI Photo

Huawei forum links new graduates to Ethiopia's ICT sector
People attend the Huawei Ethiopia forum, organised in collaboration with Addis Ababa University, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Huawei Ethiopia held a forum that is aimed at linking new university graduates into Ethiopia's information communications technology (ICT) sector. Xinhua

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Genesis exemplifies motoring luxury

Exemplifying motoring luxury, the brand enjoys an emotional connection with a new generation of customers charmed by its innovative design and engineering

MUSCAT: Global luxury automotive brand Genesis continues to make strong inroads into the Omani market with its distinctive lineup of superbly crafted sedans, SUVs and sports coupes.

Exemplifying motoring luxury, the brand enjoys an emotional connection with a new generation of customers charmed by its innovative design and engineering.

All four models in the Genesis portfolio -- G70, G80, GV70 and GV80 – have been well-received in Oman. Defined by their symbolic 'Two Lines' theme, they incorporate Genesis' 'Athletic Elegance' design philosophy, espousing a perfect balance between two opposing characteristics: athleticism and elegance. Inside the cabin, the 'Beauty of White Space' philosophy is evident in the harmony of personal space and state-of-the-art technology.

Not surprisingly, the Genesis brand has garnered an array of international awards over the past years for design excellence, quality and safety. At the world-renowned iF Design Award 2022 competition held in Seoul in April, Genesis won four coveted honours – three for Product Design and one for Interior Architecture. The awards, organised by German-based International Forum Design GmbH, were a testament to the passion, dedication and creative collaboration of the brand's design team.

Safety is also synonymous with the brand, as attested by the growing number of awards conferred upon Genesis in recent years. Most notably, the California-based Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) announced in February this year that all 2022 model year Genesis vehicles have been designated as TOP SAFETY PICK+ (TSP+) for 2022 (for G70 built after June 2021). This marks the fourth year in a row that the entire Genesis lineup of eligible vehicles has earned top honours.

Indeed, all Genesis models are equipped with a comprehensive suite of state-of-the-art driver assistance and safety technologies, including Forward Collision-Avoidance Assist with Pedestrian Detection, Lane Keeping Assist, Blind-Spot Collision- Avoidance Assist and more. Each vehicle in the Genesis line-up offers sure-footed handling, thanks to the rigid chassis construction that ensures firm stability even under the most challenging driving conditions.

Sustainability in luxury design is also an integral part of Genesis' future vision. This is exemplified by the Genesis X Speedium Coupe – a concept car that heralds Genesis' future as a true luxury electric vehicle brand. Unveiled in New York City in April this year, the concept car reflects Genesis' principle of reductive design, or "less is more", which is encapsulated in its restrained elegance, clean lines, and subtle curves. The X Speedium Coupe challenges the status quo of a defined car type with its EV face that symbolizes Genesis' transformation towards becoming an all-electric car brand with a six-model lineup by 2030.

For the brand's growing legion of enthusiasts, driving a Genesis also means enjoying a worry-free ownership experience. Vehicles across the line-up are covered by a 5-year/ unlimited mileage warranty, in addition to 5 years/100,000 km free service. Customers are also eligible for free roadside assistance for five years and access to Genesis' signature concierge services for two years.

OTE Group is the exclusive dealer for Genesis in Oman, offering excellent sales and after-sales service support, underpinned by a nationwide service network that is on par with global standards.

ISLAMIC BANKING

Maisarah enhances customers' experience with innovative digital banking solutions

MUSCAT: Responding to the growing demand for more accessible, instant and convenient financial services, Maisarah Islamic Banking Services continues to enhance its customers' banking experience with an expansive array of innovative digital solutions.

The Islamic banking window of BankDhofar had launched a bundle of pioneering facilities to give customers instant access to more services through a larger network of ATM/ CDM outlets nationwide, in addition, to its 24/7 mobile banking platform.

Marwan Mohammed Al Zadjali, Head of Digital Banking at Maisarah, highlighted the Islamic financial services provider's commitment to bringing added value to its customers through innovative digital banking solutions. "We are thrilled to see the increasing demand for Maisarah's digital banking touchpoints. The number of our mobile banking services, for instance, has increased rapidly, and we expect a higher turnaround of new customers across Oman as more services and further enhanced features are to be introduced. The same applies to our internet banking for both retail and corporate customers, as well as other self-services outlets such as ATM/ CDM ports," he noted.

In a remarkable move to make banking easy for customers in all parts of the Sultanate, Maisarah had enabled customers to deposit cash to their accounts and other Maisarah accounts instantly via a wide network of more than 70 BankDhofar and Maisarah CDMs in all major Omani cities and towns. This made Maisarah one of the first Islamic banking services providers in the Sultanate to offer such a cost-free instant cash deposit facility using the beneficiary's phone number instead of the bank account number. Also, Maisarah customers can now activate their newly opened accounts via BankDhofar and Maisarah CDMS, and complete charity and Zakat payments through Maisarah CDMs. Additionally, Maisarah customers can now view their credit card PIN and revise their monthly payment percentage through the mobile banking app.

INSPIRING DESIGN

Welcome immersive experiences in all-new 2023 Kia Sportage

MUSCAT: The all-new Kia Sportage sports one of the most inspiring designs on the roads off late. Eye-catching at the very first instance, the all-new Sportage does much more than just make the perfect first impression.

The all-new Sportage's advanced technology of the Remote Start offers the convenience of enabling you to remotely start your Kia. A perfect opportunity to get in and about quickly on a busy day.

The striking personality of the all-new Sportage is carried on in the interior too. Everything is designed around the driver. From the immersive curved display to the intelligent, easy-to-use controls. Digital keys, Wi-Fi, wireless charging, and mobile-paired audio. Connectivity is more seamless than ever. So you can have all the right technologies, in all the right places. The android auto and Apple car play allow users to connect their compatible smartphone to the vehicle, giving access to many applications on the device.

What immediately draws attention is the perfectly laid panoramic curved display. The 8" Infotainment touch screen is the interior centrepiece. Its presence is matched with all of the latest connectivity tech, ergonomically placed to be commanded from the tip of your fingers. The available audio system with an 8" display allows users to easily choose their favourite music and make the most of the journey. To keep you connected on the go, the all-new Sportage with the available wireless charging tray keeps your devices charged at all times.

The Sportage sports an impressively large panoramic glass roof that provides passengers with a view unlike any other. Enhancing comfort on every drive is the 3-stage automatic fan control that adjusts from a gentle breeze to strong air circulation with dual-zone temperature control according to your preference.

Planning fun journeys with your loved ones is now even more exciting with impressive rear seating legroom. Allowing you to comfortably share the ride with family and friends. Additionally, when seats are folded, you can nearly double your cargo room with the remote 2nd-row seatback folding.

Power up your journey with the drive mode select which offers quick, logical changes, making your drives even more thrilling. Another impressive feature is the Electronic Parking Brake which disengages in Drive or Reverse when you press the accelerator.

The all-new Sportage is equipped with a comprehensive range of powerful, responsive and efficient powertrains. A 2.0 RVC 4WD with Nu 2.0 MPI churning 157 hp at 19.5 kg.m torque. This is paired to a 6-speed AT.

The Sportage is also available as 1.6T 2WD SRF, 1.6T 2WD SPL and 1.6T 4WD SPL with Gamma 1.6T GDI with 176 HP and 27 kg.m. torque. These are paired to a 7-speed DCT.

Customers can experience the all-new Sportage at any Kia showroom. Reliable International Automotive, the distributor for Kia in Oman provides a rewarding ownership experience for customers. Excellent product attributes and unmatched facilities easily ensure their absolute satisfaction, every mile of the way.

OFFER

Attractive EMI on family sedan Nissan Altima

MUSCAT: Nissan Oman from the house of Suhail Bahwan Automobiles (SBA) has announced a low EMI on Nissan Altima. Customers can now avail an exceptionally low EMI rate of OMR 120 (terms and conditions apply). Altima Starting EMI is calculated on the price of the SV variant with 20% down payment, 2.75% rate of interest for 10 years loan tenure through Bank Muscat. Subject to credit approvals.

Nissan Altima is also cherished by owners in Oman for its good looks, striking exterior, colour range, spaciousness and fashionable interior have brought the car a lifetime of fans.

As part of the special scheme, customers of Nissan Altima can also avail free periodic vehicle service package, free insurance, assured gift voucher, free registration. The offer, which is available on models purchased for personal use, will go on till May 19.

Vehicles purchased with commercial registration will not be eligible for the scheme.

Vehicles bought for taxi, driving school, ministries, fleet and rent-a-car usage will not be eligible for this scheme.

A senior official of Nissan Oman said, "We are delighted to offer low EMI on a model that offers effortless power while furthering remarkable fuel economy. Nissan Altima is a model known for its excellent drive, superior handling, and thoughtful technology solutions. Its good looks, striking exterior, colour range, spaciousness and fashionable interior have brought the car a lifetime of fans. Its powerful high-performance engine and a range of other options adds to its appeal."

EMI for Nissan Altima

Customers can avail low EMI rate as part of the offer. Starting EMI for Nissan Altima is OMR 120. Starting EMIis calculated on the price of the SV variant with 20% down payment, 2.75% rate of interest for 10 years loan tenure through Bank Muscat. Subject to credit approvals.

Free periodic vehicle service package

All customers purchasing Nissan Altima during this scheme period will be eligible for free periodic maintenance service package for three years / 60,000 km (whichever is earlier), limited to six services only. This offer includes only the service intervals of 10,000km.

Assured gift voucher

All customers buying Nissan Altima during this scheme will be eligible for Value Added Service (VAS) gift vouchers up to OMR 100. Voucher can be redeemed for purchase of any value-added service products, services contracts and Parts at SBA service centres. The gift voucher offer is subject to terms and conditions: VAS voucher will have to be utilized fully in one go and cannot be fragmented. Any additional expenses on top of the voucher amount will be paid by the customer separately. VAS Voucher will have a limited validity period and will have to be consumer before October 31, 2022. VAS Voucher is transferable. VAS Voucher will be in OMR 50 denomination.

Multiple vouchers will be issued for OMR 100 / OMR 150 / OMR 200. VAS Voucher can be redeemed only at SBA Workshop and the Voucher amount cannot be discounted in cash.

All customers purchasing Nissan Altima during this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle insurance (Oman and UAE only).

All customers purchasing Nissan Altima during this scheme period will be eligible for free first year vehicle registration.

ROUND-UP

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Dhofar Automotive launches 'Jeep Road to Juventus' contest

The competition provides the opportunity to enter a draw and win this jackpot, for those who buy one of the Jeep Gladiator, Wrangler, and Grand Cherokee models before the deadline

MUSCAT: Dhofar Automotive, the official distributor of Jeep, Dodge, Chrysler, Ram vehicles, Fiat, and Alfa Romeo in Oman, announced the launch of the 'Jeep Road to Juventus' competition, through which the fans of Jeep and Juventus team will have the opportunity to enjoy a unique experience and a memorable trip to Italy to meet their favourite team.

The competition provides the opportunity to enter a draw and win this jackpot, for those who buy one of the Jeep Gladiator, Wrangler, and Grand Cherokee models before the deadline on June 30.

Commenting on the launch of this competition, Hatem Al-Najjar, General Manager of Dhofar Automotive, said, "The legendary four-wheel-drive brand "Jeep" has a historic connection with the world-renowned Juventus football team. Many of our valued customers are fans of the team and are interested in following domestic and international football games too. Thus, came the idea of launching the Jeep road to Juventus competition, offering winners an unforgettable trip to Italy to meet the players of their favourite team. The winner will also have a special tour of the stadiums, stands, and locker rooms. The winner will also learn about the various events and activities of the team. We, in turn, aim to share the interests of our clients and enable winners to meet their favourite team in an atmosphere of exceptional fun."

The Jeep Grand Cherokee has been able to take a prominent place on the list of the most favourite cars. This exquisite model was designed based on a survey of Jeep customers around the world, thus meeting the desires and needs of these Jeep owners. The Jeep Grand Cherokee was made to offer Jeep's legendary off-road 4WD capabilities, superior performance on paved roads, many technological perks, and more advanced safety features.

The Jeep Gladiator is considered one of the most capable off-road medium-sized trucks ever. It was inspired by the rich heritage of reliable powerful jeeps, with an unparalleled array of powerful advantages such as the distinctive design, and the ability to drive freely outdoors, along with smart functionality and versatility, making it the best SUV in its class.

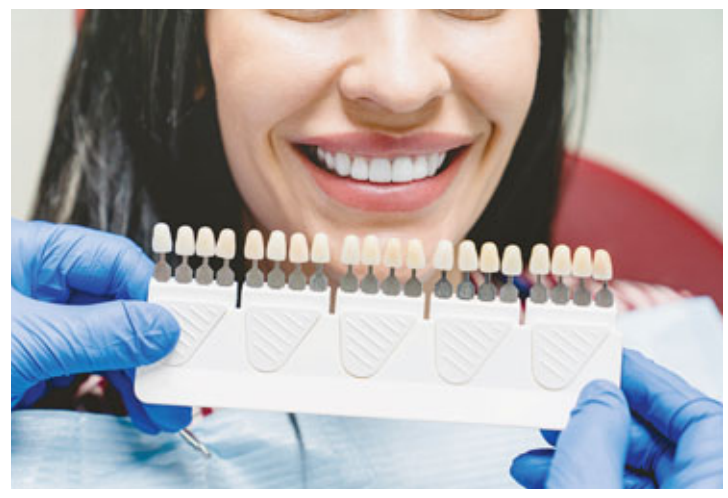
The Jeep Wrangler is a road legend, the unique vehicle for everyday urban adventures, which comes with excellent levels of comfort and superior driving dynamics while maintaining its distinctive personality; enhanced by its undisputed superior off-road capabilities, original Jeep design, and advanced technical features.

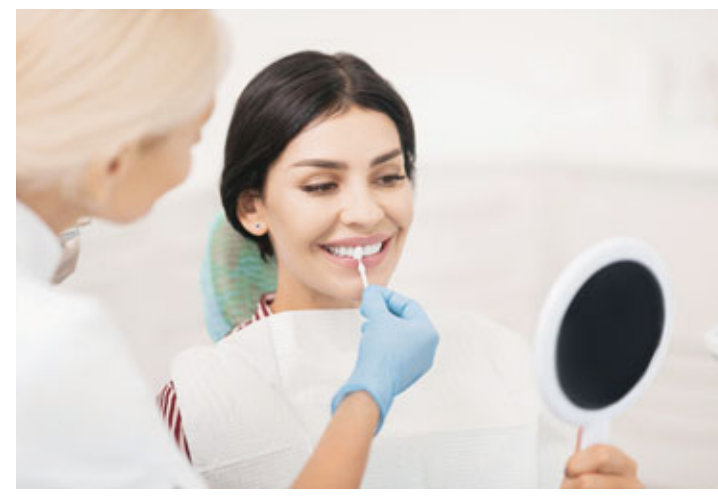
The general manager of Dhofar Automotive adds: "The Jeep Road to Juventus competition now offers a great opportunity for Jeep brand fans to own one of the Jeep models Gladiator, Wrangler, and Grand Cherokee, and participate in the competition to win this special prize and take a memorable trip to Italy to watch their beloved team, As well as enjoying a fun driving experience every day and long-lasting peace of mind. And so I invite all adventure and strong performance enthusiasts to head to the Dhofar Automotive showrooms in Al Wattayah, Al Azaiba, Sohar, Nizwa, and Dhofar, get a closer look at the exhibited models, and purchase one of the leading Jeep cars with great capabilities across various terrain."

Jeep, Dodge, Chrysler, Ram, Fiat, and Alfa Romeo models are available in the showrooms of Dhofar Automotive, with different categories of fittings.

DENTISTRY

How much do dental veneers cost in Turkey?





MUSCAT: You must be wondering what veneers cost in Turkey. Let this article be your guide on all you need to know.

A dental veneer serves as a cover for the tooth surface when the dentist cannot save the tooth due to a significant decay in the patient's tooth. Veneers come in different types. From these types of veneers, the most suitable veneer type for the patient depends on the tooth's condition, the cost, and the patient's expectations, and then the procedure begins.

How is the coating of the teeth done?

At Dentakay dental clinic, the first step is taking the measurements of the teeth. It determines the veneer material for the patients. The cleaning process of the teeth follows, and the moulds are prepared and placed on the tooth temporarily to form the necessary shape for the coating.

The tooth adapts to the mould by letting the patient live with the mould placed temporarily for a while. If the dentist encounters a problem while removing the mould, the necessary treatment is applied to solve the problem. The tooth coating process is in the final stage, and the entire process ends.

The tooth veneer process is completed in 3 sessions if there is no problem, depending on the tooth's condition and the patient. Sometimes, it is possible to accelerate the process and complete the veneer in 2 sessions. The critical point is that 2-3 days between each session will be better for the placement of the tooth coating.

After completing the dental veneer process, the patient needs to pay attention to oral care. The person should brush at least two times and use dental floss. There is no need for additional consideration for the veneer, but oral care should continue in its routine. The patient also must be careful about very hot or icy drinks and foods.

Types of Dental Coating?

Porcelain Dental Veneer: It is a type of veneer in which the dental Veneers on the tooth is porcelain material. Porcelain veneer prepared and fitted in the patient's tooth colour is a durable and long-lasting veneer type against tooth breakage. Patients with aesthetic concerns also prefer it.

Zirconium Dental Veneer: It is a dental veneer that makes the tooth look close to the original. This type of tooth coating does not have hot and cold sensitivity like the others, and it does not cause any problems in the gums. Thanks to its natural and aesthetic appearance, it is possible to say that it is the most preferred type of Zirconium tooth coating for anterior teeth.

Metal Backed Tooth Veneer: Most people stay away from this veneer because of its dark appearance. It compensates for a look in its price. It is much more affordable. Because it has a durable coating and a dark appearance, it is the most preferred coating for the back teeth.

Empress (Full Porcelain) Tooth Veneer: For the application of full porcelain tooth Veneers, there is the shaving of the area around the tooth in a certain amount, and the dentist can apply the process of fixing the veneer. Results are obtained in the colour of the patient's teeth and with an aesthetic appearance.

Dental prices

The Veneers cost in Turkey is one of the cheapest in the world compared with other prices in other parts of the world. The materials used in dental veneers and bridges that are custom-made yet imported and the work that requires precision in these processes affect the increasing dental prices. You should know that the quality of the material is not the leading factor affecting the tooth price.

Material quality

Material quality is essential. It also affects dental prices. But believe me, a false tooth made using the best material will not work for you. The tooth you have made by paying a lot of money may even spoil your health. Well, except for good material, what affects the price of the tooth? What should we pay attention to find the value for the money we have given or will give for the tooth?

Good workmanship

Let me explain to you the most critical issue. Respect for the work of the physician and attention to the work is essential. Even if a responsible physician who does his job diligently uses cheap materials, the result will not be disappointing. The result will be aesthetic, long-lasting, and functional in these conditions with suitable materials.

Tooth preparation

The process of preparing the tooth for zirconium in the mouth requires the time and attention of the physician. Preparing teeth with precision is not a simple process. The shape of the prepared tooth should contain sufficient distance for the tooth coating on it.

At the same time, the dentist must ensure the desired sensitive contact with the gingiva. It is imperative not to reduce the cut tooth too much while making room for the tooth veneer. This situation, which threatens the vitality of the tooth, can cause a problem. Frequent dislocation of the dental surface may also be due to oversized teeth. When we encounter extreme cold, hot sensitivity, even toothache, and swelling, we can see that the cut on the tooth is too much.

Measure stage and quality

After completing the tooth's cutting with these sensitive parameters, it is time to measure and temporary tooth coating. The quality of the measurement material used increases the precision.

A temporary dental veneer is a job because a well-made temporary dental crown is the first step to an excellent dental bridge.

The bridge legs are parallel in the tooth cut, allowing the bridge to enter the mouth comfortably. In this way, it shortens getting used to the dental veneer. After taking the dental impression, it is now up to the dental technician.

Dental technician

The materials used by the dental laboratory and the knowledge, attention, and care determine the quality of the work. Technicians who meet these conditions have to devote a long time to work. Time means money, as you know.

The importation of these materials used in the dental laboratory and the costs of the investment made for technology affect the Veneers cost in Turkey.

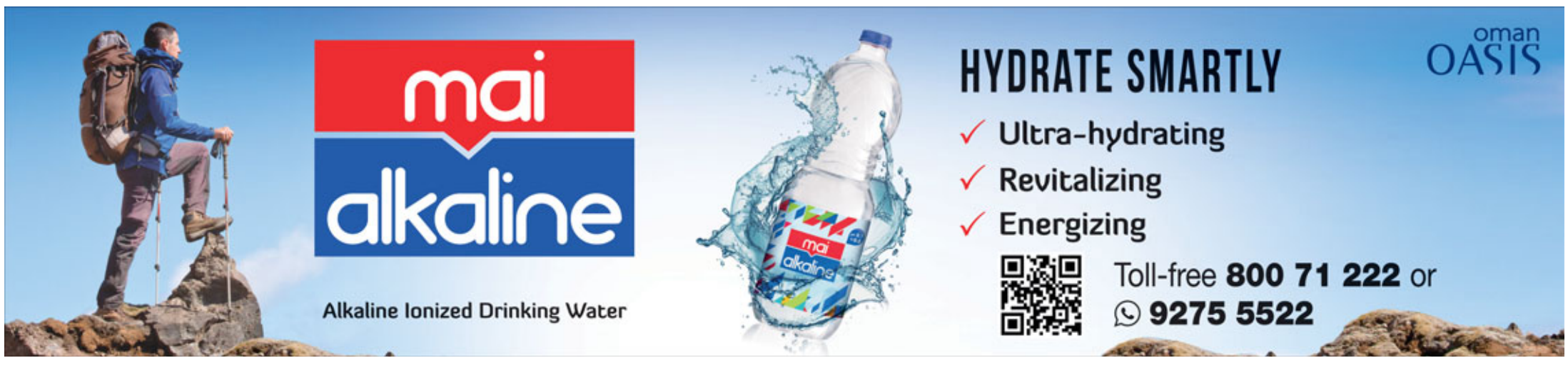
Veneers cost in Turkey is between $100 - and $200 per tooth in Turkey, which is remarkably cheap compared to the $800 - $2,000 in the United States. Also, the dentists in Turkey are very experienced in dental care because they have been in the business for so long and have handled several cases.

How long does a dental veneer last?

One of the most curious questions about dental coating is how the dental layer is and how long it takes. Our answer is three sessions. Depending on the person's teeth, we do the dental veneer in the best way in sessions that vary between 2 and 4 sessions.

Since it is one of the procedures carried out with aesthetic concerns, we ensure that the treatment processes continue until we are sure that the coating will show its effect in the best way, without rushing the dental coating processes.

Reference website: https://www.colgate.com/en-us/oral-health/veneers/composite-veneers-other-options



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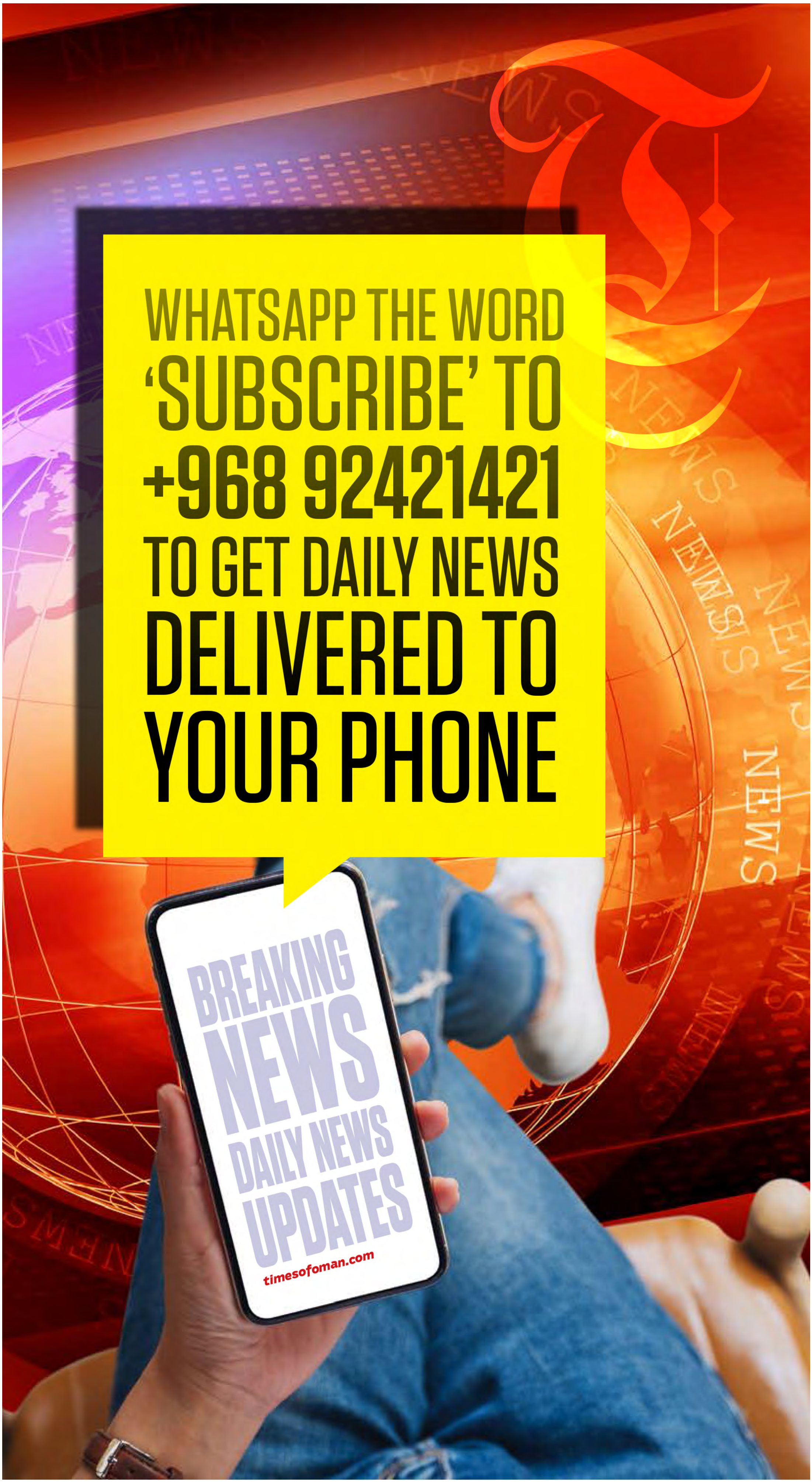
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