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SULTANATE SENDS RELIEF TO SUDAN

The Sultanate continues sending its relief aid to Sudan by sea, following massive flooding caused by heavy rains that inundated large swathes of the country. **>A5**



HM THE SULTAN CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT OF GUINEA-BISSAU

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Umaro Sissoco Embalo of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, on his country's Independence Anniversary. His Majesty the Sultan expressed his sincere congratulations and best wishes of good health and happiness to President Embalo, and the friendly people of Guinea-Bissau further progress and welfare. **-ONA**



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TIMESOFOMAN.COM



QUALIFICATION NOT LINKED TO WAGES

Experts say salary should be based on performance



Shahswar Al Balushi



Khalifah Al Hina'ai



Ahmed Al Barwani

Jobseekers urged not to wait for specific jobs

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A competency-based pay structure that rewards how well employees perform at the workplace should be in place, rather than rewarding them on the basis of their qualifications, experts told

the *Times of Oman*.

This comes after the Undersecretary for Labour at the Ministry of Labour announced on Tuesday that wages would no longer be linked with qualifications.

"Providing more job opportunities to Omanis currently looking for work in the country was one of the main reasons behind the decision to no longer equate an employee's salary to his qualifications," the Undersecretary for Labour at the Ministry of Labour has said.

However, Omanis employed in the country will still be eligible for the minimum wage of OMR325 a month, irrespective of the nature

of their job. This decision was made on 22 September.

In his interview with *Al Shabiba*, the sister Arabic publication of the *Times of Oman*, he said, "The majority of jobseekers registered with the Ministry hold bachelor's degrees and diplomas. Therefore, linking wages to their qualifications would not facilitate their employment. Most jobs offered by the various sectors require prior experience from jobseekers."

He also urged jobseekers to opt for the jobs that were currently available in their sectors of expertise, as compared to waiting for the jobs that are expected to be filled

under the expatriate replacement programme set up by the Ministry of Labour. This would help reduce the number of locals currently seeking work in the country.

Immediate opportunities

"We aim to provide immediate job opportunities to a big number of jobseekers," said Al Hosni. "Among the objectives of the ministry comes regulating the labour market, which drove us to the decision of replacing expatriate manpower with the national workforce. There are changes to come in this replacement scheme, employment policies and changes in the procedures

of how the various sectors in the country should operate."

As part of these changes, in principle, Omani nationals will receive priority for jobs. To ensure they remain competitive, job seekers need to gain experience and add to their skills. The ministry is also working to bridge gaps in employee retirement policies, which vary across the different sectors.

Shahswar Al Balushi, the head of Oman's Tanfeeth Labour Labs, said the decision was made to increase competition for jobs among Omanis, encourage locals to increase their skills, and equate their

working conditions with those of expats who did the same roles they were assigned.

Change

"Earlier, when firms used to register an Omani national with a bachelor's degree who had agreed upon a salary of OMR450, the ministry would say he couldn't be registered at that salary, as he needed to earn a minimum of OMR600," he said.

"The company would argue that the Omani had already fixed this salary, but the ministry would respond that because he had a bachelor's degree, he had to be paid OMR600." **>A4**



Minister takes stock of Rusayl-Bidbid Road work progress

A3

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN Muscat Airport invites volunteers

1 Muscat Airport has invited volunteers for an operational readiness trial on Friday. **>A3**

OMAN Nakhal: Beckoning hot water springs

2 One cannot miss visiting Ain Al Thawarah that is close to Nakhal fort. **>A4**

MARKET e-platform for health insurance

3 An e-platform pact has been signed for health insurance system. **>B1**

ANNOUNCEMENT

Selective tax on sweetened drinks in Oman from October 1

MUSCAT: The Tax Authority announced that the establishments concerned will have to start paying selective tax (excise tax) on sweetened drinks with effect from October 1, 2020.

The tax application comes within the context of the Unified GCC Agreement on Selective Tax, already imposed by some GCC states on the said products before the Sultanate did.

Existing stocks

The Tax Authority further explained that, according to the provisions of Article 15 of the Selective Tax Law, all parties with business in sweetened drinks subject to the tax (importing, production, trading or distribution) must submit a notice of their existing stocks of such products on the day preceding the date of application of the tax (which means



existing stocks by the end of September 2020).

The notice has to be filed within 15 days (from the date of application of the tax) via the electronic portal of the Tax Authority.

The Tax Authority urged importers of the Selective Tax-listed products (including sweetened drinks) to compare the list of

their imports to the list published on the portal of the Tax Authority.

To avoid any delay in clearing imported consignments at customs outlets, the importers have to apply, much in advance, for the addition of "selective products" that are not included in the selective tax list, before beginning import operations. **-ONA**

SOCIETY

Respect for all sensitivities behind dress code in public

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Plans to impose a dress code requiring people to dress modestly in malls and public places have been drawn up so that the sensitivities of everyone living in the Sultanate are respected.

According to Qais Al Ma'shari, the chairman of the Public Affairs Committee of the Municipal Council in Muscat, the regulations were created keeping in mind the negative impact dressing indecently can have on young people, who might try to imitate these habits.

"This practice of indecent dressing has begun to spread only recently, and therefore we felt it was important everyone respected the customs, traditions and beliefs of others, and reduce temptations, desires and behaviours that are unacceptable in public by following the law laid out by ministerial and governmental decisions," he said.

Behaviour

"This was done to protect the behaviour of adolescents of both sexes," he added. "Young people are impulsive, and it is necessary to deal with such tendencies by preventing them from happening in the first place. Modest clothing will protect the beliefs of everyone, including families, children, youth and women."

As per the suggestions recommended by the Municipal Committee of Muscat Governorate that have been passed to the Municipal Council, which will look at them during their next meeting set to take place in October, after which they will send it to the Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court to make



it into law, sleeveless shirts and shorts that end above the knee are not to be worn in public areas.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in a fine of between OMR100 and OMR300, as well as a jail term ranging from one to three months. Commercial establishments and malls can set their own dress code standards, provided they comply with these regulations. These also need to be listed in English and Arabic on their premises.

"The committee agreed that malls and shopping complexes do have the right to make their own rules and regulations, as long as they are based on the Omani Penal Code, because they might need to take administrative steps as part of these rules, and then display them in the form of information boards in English and Arabic, with diagrams to imply the correct height of the clothes worn."



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Whatsuloom



Data Sources Readership: IPSOS NRS 2017, Web reach: Effective Measure/Narrative, Google Analytics January 2020; Social media numbers verified online as of January 2020; *Whatsapp subscribers x 4 pass-on rate

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Employees in Oman cannot be asked to work more than 9 hours: Worker's Federation

News story on workers in Oman



A news story on workers in Oman gathered 9,218 post clicks and reached 54,154 people on Facebook.

📺 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

6,300 VIEWS

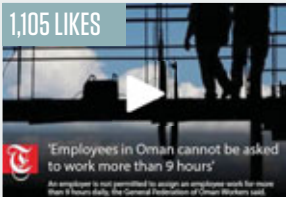


A wrapup on fake news

The Maghrib news wrapup on fake news received 6,300 views and reached 25,000 people on Facebook.

📷 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

1,105 LIKES



post on working hours in Oman

A news photo post on working hours in Oman got 1,105 likes on Instagram

Minister reviews work on Rusayl-Bidbid road

The project work also includes rehabilitating the existing paving layers to meet the design needs, the volume of traffic expected during the next 20 years



Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, accompanied by Eng. Salim bin Mohammed Al Nuaimi, Undersecretary for Transport, Sheikh Hilal bin Said Al Hajri, Governor of the Al Dakhiliyah Governorate and a number of specialists in the Ministry, to the expansion project of the Rusayl-Bidbid road and to see the maintenance roads in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate.

The project work also includes rehabilitating the existing paving layers to meet the design needs, the volume of traffic expected during the next 20 years, constructing tunnels and bridges for pedestrian to connect urban communities on both sides of the road, expanding all existing bridges, adding new flyovers.

The work also includes rehabilitation of the existing bridges and intersections to accommodate the expansion of the road, which are the expansion of Wadi Al Jafnin Bridge, the construction of a new intersection for Ansab Road, the construction of a new intersection at Saih Al Ahmar, the expansion of the Fanja intersection, the expansion of Wadi Fanja Bridge at the town of Al Amqat, the expansion of Bidbid intersection, the construction of a new bridge for Wadi Al Dhabaoun and expanding pedestrian tunnels.

The road will be provided with lighting, and with all the necessary traffic safety requirements, including metal barriers, guiding regulations, warning, and paints, as well as establishing a surface



TAKING STOCK: Eng. Said bin Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, Eng. Salim bin Mohammed Al Nuaimi, Undersecretary for Transport, Sheikh Hilal bin Said Al Hajri, Governor of the Al Dakhiliyah Governorate and other officials inspected work on the Rusayl-Bidbid road expansion project.

drainage system for the main road, the middle island, bridges, roundabouts, entrances and exits.

He urged the executing company of the project not to be affected by the current traffic movement and its flow when implementing the project, in order to facilitate the movement of citizens and residents between the states of the Governorate of Muscat and the rest of the governorates of the Sultanate.

Volunteers invited for Muscat Airport operational test run



GETTING READY: The volunteers must be over 12 years of age and need to bring their valid passport as well as airport pass if they have one.

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Muscat International Airport has invited volunteers from locals or other nationals residing in Oman to take part in the trial for testing operational readiness of the airport on Friday, September 25, 2020 at 9:00AM, ahead of the planned re-opening of the airport on October 1.

The invitation on the official website of Muscat International Airport read, "Muscat International Airport will be conducting health screening procedures and COVID-19 testing for all arriving

passengers, and so we are inviting 150 volunteers to undergo the full arrival process including registration, immigration, COVID-19 PCR tests (nasal swabs), and exit through the baggage claim hall.

Free PCR test

"In the afternoon, we will be testing our drive-through COVID-19 testing facility with the help of a smaller number of volunteers. As part of the trial, you will receive a free PCR test (worth OMR25), with the result communicated to you within 24 hours."

Once the registration form is completed and received, an ap-

proval email to participate in the trial will be sent.

The participants need to be aged 12 years or above.

They need to bring their valid passport as well as airport pass if they have one. They must make sure to be at the airport at 9:00 AM on Friday, September 25.

For health and safety reasons, participants must wear face masks and maintain social distancing throughout the trial.

"We look forward to welcoming you next Friday. Thank you in advance for contributing towards the return of operations at our airports," the invitation added.

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NAKHAL

BECKONING DATE PALM AND HOT WATER SPRINGS

WHERE: Nakhal or Nakhli is a wilayat in Al Batinah Region. It is approximately about 100 kilometres from Muscat and is known for date palm groves. One can see the palm groves in most parts of the wilayat.

WHAT'S SPECIAL: Located on a rocky hilltop, Nakhal Fort is one of the most important landmarks of this wilayat. The fort houses a museum which exhibits historic guns, handi-crafts and other artefacts of olden times. The fort is temporarily closed. Known for its hot water springs, one cannot miss visiting Ain Al Thawarah that is close to the fort. The warm spring water runs among the palm trees and flows year round.

One can also find many wadis here, Wadi Mistal and Wadi Bani Awf being the popular ones.

There are several small villages in Wadi Bani Awf and a perfect place for those looking for some off-road driving experience with stunning locales. A drive from Wadi Mistal leads to the picturesque Wakan village.

REWARD TO WORKERS

<FROM A1 'Employees' performance and skills also matter'

"Now, the Ministry is to act as a regulator to ensure Omanis are paid a fair minimum wage," added Al Balushi.

"It is for the Omani to ensure and fight for the right wage. For example, if a company can only pay OMR1,000 in salary, but the employee wants OMR1,500, then he must have the capability to request that salary. But the company must also pay him a fair salary: you cannot offer someone with a master's degree a salary of OMR350."

The decision to match a citizen's salary to his qualifications, said Al Balushi, was instituted so that Omanis could receive a fair wage. However, he added that companies around the world rewarded employees not just because of their education, but on the basis of their performance and skills.

"When companies used to hire an expat, and offer him more salary than an Omani for doing the same job, the Omani would complain, on the grounds that both had the same qualifications," he recalled.

"He did not take into account that the expat had seven or eight years' more experience and was therefore compensated accordingly. Now, Omanis will be paid according to their performance levels and skills at the workplace."

"This is the way all companies around the world reward their workers, through the system of a meritocracy," he said. "That being said, in Oman, if a company does not reward its workers accordingly, be they Omani or expat, then they will leave, and go to another company. This is also a great opportunity for Omanis to improve their own abilities, in the form of short courses and supplementary learning that enhances their existing skills."

Al Balushi also felt this new salary structure needed to be reflected in the Omanisation policies adopted by companies. "In the construction sector, the Omanisation rate is currently 30 percent," he said. "But how much of a percentage of the salaries in that sector goes to Omanis, compared to expats. Instead of looking at the number of Omanis employed in a particular sector, one must also look at the salary distribution among locals employed there."

Adding to this, Ahmed Al Barwani, a former member of the Shura Council and former vice chairman of the its Youth and Human Resources Committee, who also serves as the vice president of the Omani Bar Association and is a former member of the National Committee for Human Rights, said, "In my field of specialisation, law, I was, and still am, a firm believer that skill, competence, and practical experience are more important than academic qualification, such as masters degrees and doctorates. You sometimes find people with higher educational qualifications in law who do not know how to even write a legal notice, or do not know the difference between the law and its regulation."

"I finished in the top places among my fellow bachelor's degree graduates at Sultan Qaboos University, and I started my career with a very small salary of OMR100 in 2004, and then I received OMR200 for a period of two years. But now, I own a law office in Shatti Al Qurum, in Bawshar."

He said, "Job seekers must be willing to work at any salary for the sake of experience, which is better than sitting at home and waiting for a job for years. They can join a job to gain experience and develop their capabilities and then graduate to a better job with a higher salary. This is the reason for success among many of the residents in our country. Some of them don't even have a degree, but they work and gain experience and competence. This has led to them earning a high salary and occupying a prominent position. They were patient and willing to learn and gain experience."

"Parents have to teach their children that certificates are for knowledge in the specialisation that their son or daughter desires, but when it comes to work, the experience and competence that he acquires while training and working in his field of specialization will determine his salary, not just his education," he added.

Lawyer Khalifah Al Hina'ai said, "The decision to cancel linking wages to qualifications and establishing a minimum wage of OMR325 for all is a wise one, and its usefulness will soon be proven. Competence will impose itself, and competition will help in practical capabilities."

"The private sector does not recognise the certificate a person bears, but rather the amount he provides for the benefit of the institution," he added. "Therefore, the pursuit of skill development will be more effective than simply holding degrees. Encourage people to pursue the job they are skilled in, so that our youth don't remain suspicious of the issue of employment and salary. The state's interest lies in the presence of a strong private sector, on the principle that the labour sector is governed by the regulations of the contract, rather than the law. The state had previously experimented with setting wages, but this proved unsustainable."

Al Hina'ai went on to say, "This decision will reduce the number of excuses put forth by companies for not employing citizens. The state can now confront them when they seek to evade reasons behind not appointing citizens, with many of them claiming this is because of the higher cost linked to them. It actually costs more to bring on labour from outside the Sultanate."

"Conversely, the Ministry of Labour should raise the rates of Omanisation in the private sector, and in no way can it be lenient or exclude companies from implementing this. The success of any decision cannot be achieved unless there is a strong basis to implement it. This is a roadmap to help solve the country's employment problem," he said.

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ROYAL DIRECTIVES

Oman sends relief to Sudan

MUSCAT: The Sultanate continues sending its relief aid to Sudan by sea, following massive flooding caused by heavy rains that inundated large swathes of the country.

Military transport vessels of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) set out from Said Bin Sultan Naval Base on Wednesday laden with a variety of basic human requirements and other relief items.

The relief aid is operated, in co-ordination with Oman Charitable Organisation.

The move comes in implementation of the Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, the Supreme Commander, in pursuance of similar assistance and humanitarian efforts extended by the Sultanate to friendly countries during emergencies or exceptional conditions. -ONA



HELPING HAND: Military transport vessels of the Royal Navy of Oman (RNO) set out from Said Bin Sultan Naval Base on Wednesday laden with a variety of basic human requirements and other relief items. - ONA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Workshop on Pharmacoeconomics begins

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with Merck Company organised a training virtual workshop on applying Pharmacoeconomics.

MoH was represented by the Occupational Development & Guidance Section in the Directorate General of Medical Supplies.

Pharmacoeconomics refers to the scientific discipline that compares the value of one pharmaceutical drug or drug therapy to another and is a sub-discipline of health economics. A pharmacoeconomic study evaluates the cost and effects of a pharmaceutical product.

A number of specialists in health

economic management from the Sultanate and abroad along with the MOH pharmacists are participating in the workshop.

The three-week workshop aims to introduce the key concepts of Pharmacoeconomics and scientific ways of implementation and discuss the implications of results

Tender issued to supply laptops for students

Times News Service

Muscat: The Ministry of Social Development has published a tender for companies to provide laptop computers for students enrolled in the first year of higher education and falling in the category of social security and those with low income.

Royal Directives

The tender comes within the recent Royal Directives issued by the government to provide laptops to all new students enrolled in higher education institutions for the academic year (2020/2021) from families of social security and low income.

AGREEMENT SIGNED TO BUY WHEAT FROM LOCAL FARMERS

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MAFWR) on Wednesday signed a memorandum of cooperation with Oman Flour Mills Company (OFMC). According to the memorandum, the company will buy locally produced wheat from farmers during the harvest season. The memorandum was signed by Dr. Ahmed bin Nasser Al Bakri, MAFWR Undersecretary for Agriculture, and Haitham bin Mohammed Al Fannah, CEO of the OFMC. - ONA





Sultanate of Oman
Ministry of Health

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Health invites specialized companies to participate in the following Tenders: -

Tender Ref.	Description	Last date for Collection of tender Document	Closing Time/ Day/ Date	Eligibility	Tender Fee (Non-Refundable)
182/2020	Supply Reagent for Automated Immuno Histochemistry Stainer System for The Royal Hospital	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 21/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
184/2020	Supply of Pharmaceutical	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 21/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
185/2020	Supply of Surgical Consumables	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 21/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
186/2020	Tailor & Supply of Uniforms for Students at Oman College of Health Science	24/September /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 07/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
187/2020	Supply & Installation of HLA typing & Antibody Screening System at the Royal Hospital	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 21/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
188/2020	Replacement of RDU Water Treatment Plant at Al-Buraimi Hospital in Al-Buraimi Governorate	24/September /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 28/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
189/2020	Replacement of RDU water treatment plant Loop at Shinas Polyclinic in North Al-Batinah Governorate	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 28/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set
190/2020	Replacement of Electrical Panels at Khoula Hospital	01/October /2020	Before 08 am on Wednesday 21/October/2020	Specialized Companies registered with Tender Board	R.O 25.000 Per set

- All Specialized and interested Companies registered with Tender Board on the above mentioned Grade may obtain Tender documents from the E. Tendering website: <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om> against non-refundable payment as mentioned above for each set of document.
- Tenders should be submitted on line on the given website signed and sealed. The Tenderer should enclose scan copy of Bank Guarantee or a certified Cheque issued by a Local bank for not less than One percent (1%) for the Tender value validity for (90) days from the Tender Submission date, addressed to The Chairman of the Tender Committee before one day of date submission.
- The Original Bank Guarantee should be submitted to the office of Director of Purchase and Tenders one day before the submission date for all Tenders.
- Ministry is not bound to accept the lowest tender and reserves the right to accepts or reject any tender.

(<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)

Any Clarification, you may contact via

Telephone: 24166670

Email id etenderhd@ita.gov.om



The European Union Delegation in Oman announces the launch of the twelfth Edition of the Chaillot Prize for the Promotion of Human Rights in the GCC Region.

The Prize honours local civil society organisations, public or private institutions, as well as individuals for their efforts in promoting general awareness of human rights and the rights of vulnerable groups in the GCC region.

The deadline for submitting applications for this year's edition is 18th of October 2020.

Interested candidates are invited to refer to the Award Rules and Procedures and the Application Form at:

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/saudi-arabia_ar



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OFM/TD-20/053
Tender for hiring packing contractors

We are looking for reputed and professional service providers who can provide "Packers" to handle the Packing and Stacking of packaged materials at our flour and feed mill. We need service providers who can provide approx.70 nos of workforce under the same sponsor and subcontracting is not recommended. The site visit will be conducted on 27th Sep, 10.00 am sharp. Interested parties please visit the site, with fully equipped PPE equipment.

For any further clarifications /site visit please contact us on 99845546. Vendor selection will be based on "BEST and FINAL OFFER" process, please provide the contact details of the authorized person for final discussions. The closing date of the tender is 4th October 2.00 PM and interested parties need to submit the **technical and commercial bids separately** in a sealed envelope with our ref. no duly mentioned and drop them at the tender box of our Atyab Investment Building.





جامعة ظفار
Dhofar University

DHOFAR UNIVERSITY

Tender for Solar Photovoltaic System

Dhofar University invites DCRP-approved solar PV installers in the Sultanate of Oman to submit their proposal for the design, engineering, procurement & supply, construction & erection, testing & commissioning and comprehensive 10-year maintenance of a solar photovoltaic system in the Dhofar University campus as a turnkey project along with grid connecting equipment & installation in coordination with Dhofar Power Company including associated electrical & civil works.

Interested contractors are requested to visit the Dhofar University site and study the requirements before submitting their technical & commercial proposal for this project which will be executed on a turnkey basis.

Queries, if any, should be addressed to technicalaffairs@du.edu.om

Tender proposals should be submitted in envelopes and sealed with red wax. The envelope must contain the technical proposal and commercial proposals in separate envelopes with each envelope highlighting the proposal type. The exterior of the sealed envelope must not reveal the identity of the tenderer.

Tender proposals should be addressed to Dhofar University and deposited in the office of the Vice Chancellor by 31st December 2020.

Dhofar University is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender proposal received.

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WORLD



JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

US coronavirus death toll tops 200,000

NEW YORK: US COVID-19 deaths surpassed 200,000 on Tuesday, according to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

With the national caseload topping 6.8 million, the death toll across the United States rose to 200,005 as of 11:23 a.m. local time

(1523 GMT), according to the CSSE. New York state reported 33,092 fatalities, at the top of the U.S. state-level death toll list. New Jersey recorded the second most deaths of 16,069. The states of Texas, California and Florida all confirmed more than 13,000 deaths, the tally showed.

States with more than 7,000

fatalities also include Massachusetts, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

The United States remains the nation hit the worst by the pandemic, with the world's highest caseload and death toll, accounting for more than one fifth of the global deaths.

The United States reached the grim milestone of 100,000 coronavirus deaths on May 27. The number doubled in nearly four months.

Furthermore, an updated model forecast by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation at the University of Washington shows that more than 370,000 Americans may have died of COVID-19 based on current projection scenario by January 1, 2021. **xinhua**



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NEW STEPS

British PM unveils new restrictions to stop rising coronavirus infections

RESTRICTIVE MEASURES: The prime minister said schools and colleges will remain open and businesses can stay open in a 'COVID compliant way'.

LONDON: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Tuesday announced new restrictive measures to tackle a sharp rise in the country's coronavirus cases.

"I am sorry this will affect many businesses just getting back on their feet, but we must act," Johnson said in a statement to the House of Commons (lower house of parliament), adding that Britain has now reached a "perilous turning point".

Johnson confirmed that from Thursday, all pubs, bars and restaurants in England must operate a table service only -- except for takeaways -- and will be forced to close at 10:00 p.m. BST (2100 GMT).

Staff are advised to work from home if they can, despite the governmental advice issued earlier this month to head back to workplaces.

The prime minister said schools and colleges will remain open and businesses can stay open in a "COVID compliant way".

The new measures mean "in no way a return to the lockdown from March," said Johnson.

The prime minister said staff in the hospitality and retail sectors, as well as passengers travelling in taxis will have to wear face coverings.

Fines for not wearing a face covering will now double to 200 pounds (about 256.3 U.S. dollars) for a first offence.

Johnson also announced a tighten-up of the "rule of six", as indoor sports teams will not be exempted.

The prime minister said the limit on wedding guests will now reduce from 30 to 15, and the phased reopening of stadiums for sports clubs has been cancelled.

Johnson said the restrictions may last for six months, warning that if new measures fail to bring the infection rates down, he will "deploy greater firepower with significantly greater restrictions".

Meanwhile, tougher enforcement measures were also announced, with businesses facing fines or closure for failing to comply with coronavirus rules.

There were grave concerns among British business leaders, especially in the hospitality trade, which must also cope with 10 p.m. curfews from Thursday. They said some bars and restaurants may now close for good.

Meanwhile, Mayor of London Sadiq Khan urged the British government to go further by requiring face coverings in outdoor settings, where social distancing is not possible.

Johnson will address the nation on TV on Tuesday night. He chaired special meetings of the Cabinet and the Cobra emergency committee Tuesday morning.

Britain's chief medical officers (CMOs) on Monday recommended moving the country's COVID-19 alert level from level Three to level Four, which means COVID-19 epidemic is in general circulation and transmission is high or rising exponentially.

The British government's Chief Scientific Adviser Patrick Vallance warned Monday that Britain could see 50,000 new cases of coronavirus per day by mid-October unless intervention is taken to slow the current infection rate.

The number of new COVID-19 cases was doubling roughly every seven days and Britain could see 200 deaths a day by mid-November, Vallance told a press briefing at 10 Downing Street.

Meanwhile, countries such as Britain, China, Russia and the United States are racing against time to develop coronavirus vaccines. **xinhua**













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INAUGURATION

Lukashenko officially sworn in as president of Belarus

MINSK: Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko has been sworn in for a sixth term, the official news agency Belta reported Wednesday.

The inauguration took place in secret and with no prior announcement. Hundreds of top government officials were reportedly present for the ceremony held in the capital, Minsk.

During the ceremony, state media reported that Lukashenko placed his right hand on the constitution and swore to "serve the people of the Republic of Belarus, respect and protect rights and freedoms of people and citizens."

German government spokesman Steffen Seibert said Wednesday that the ceremony in Minsk has "no legitimacy" and that Germany does not recognize Lukashenko as the president of Belarus.

Secrecy a sign of weakness?

The ceremony would normally have been publicized in advance as a major state occasion. However, Lukashenko's disputed election victory on August 9 has unleashed weeks of mass protest across Belarus.

"This wasn't an act by someone who is confident of own support. We thought it was dress rehears-

al," said DW correspondent Nick Conolly in Minsk.

"There were soldiers around and streets were closed but it took everyone by surprise. It was a modest affair, not like the huge spectacle it usually is. It is a sign of a president feeling the pressure," he added.

"It's a sign of weakness from the government which will motivate the protesters."

Calls for protest

Following the clandestine inauguration ceremony, the Belarusian opposition called for an "immediate civil disobedience campaign."

Pavel Latushko, an opposition politician, said the ceremony was like a secret meeting of "thieves."

"Where are the jubilant citizens? Where is the diplomatic corps?" Latushko posted on social media. **dw**

Used Cars for Sale

الهيئة العامة للمناطق الاقتصادية الخاصة والمناطق الحرة
Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones
Sultanate of Oman



The Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) would like to announce the sale of used cars by auction. All proposals shall be submitted in sealed envelopes as per the following conditions:

- Bidders wishing to participate shall pay a refundable insurance fee of (RO 100), which shall be reimbursed to unsuccessful bidders.
- Bidders can inspect the cars at the front area of OPAZ office in Azaiba, during working hours on Monday and Tuesday (28 - 29 of September) and shall coordinate with OPAZ Administration & Services Department on (24507530).
- Cars shall be sold in their current condition; any additional claims will not be accepted after this auction is awarded. Bidders may buy one or more cars.
- Bidders shall take the purchased cars within a maximum of one week from the auction date; otherwise, they cannot claim the cars or any compensation.
- Proposals shall be submitted in sealed envelopes to OPAZ Administration & Services Department, located in the 4th floor at Al Mashriq Building on Thursday 1\10\2020 before 1:00 PM, and winning bidders will be notified accordingly.



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MEN'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Lewandowski, de Bruyne, Neuer up for UEFA Player of the Year Award

NYON: Manchester City's Kevin de Bruyne, Bayern Munich's Robert Lewandowski, and Manuel Neuer were on Wednesday short-listed for the 2019-20 UEFA Men's Player of the Year Award.

UEFA has announced the names of the nominees short-listed for both 2019-20 UEFA Men's and Women's Player of the Year Awards. The awards will be presented at the 2020-21 UEFA Champions League group stage draw ceremony, which will take place on Thursday, October 1. For the men's player award, the short-list of three players was selected by a jury composed of 80 coaches of the clubs which participated in the



group stages of the 2019-20 UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League, together with 55 journalists from each of UEFA's 55 member associations, selected by the European Sports Media (ESM) group.

The coaches and journalists were requested to select a shortlist of three players by allocating respectively five points, three points, and one point to each of them. The final result was based on the total number of votes cast by the coaches and the journalists. The coaches were not allowed to vote for players from their own team.

"The three players who received the most points overall following

the conclusion of the voting, in alphabetical order, are Kevin de Bruyne (Belgium - Manchester City FC), Robert Lewandowski (Poland - FC Bayern Munich) and Manuel Neuer (Germany - FC Bayern Munich)," UEFA said in a statement.

Lucy Bronze, Pernille Harder, and Wendie Renard have been shortlisted for the women's player award.

For the women's player award, the shortlist of three players was selected by a jury composed of the coaches of the eight clubs which participated in the 2019/20 UEFA Women's Champions League final tournament, together with

the coaches of the 12 highest-ranked teams in the latest UEFA women's national team rankings. Twenty journalists specialising in women's football and selected by the ESM group were also part of the jury.

Similarly to the men's accolade, coaches and journalists were requested to select a shortlist of three players by allocating respectively five points, three points, and one point to each of them. The final result was based on the total number of votes cast by the coaches and the journalists.

The coaches were not allowed to vote for players from their own team. **ANI**

Samson thanks Sachin for praising his 'clean strikes'

Taking to Twitter, Tendulkar lauded the 'clean striking' by Samson which included 'all proper cricketing shots'

NEW DELHI: Rajasthan Royals batsman Sanju Samson thanked former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar for praising his 74-run knock from just 32 balls against Chennai Super Kings on Tuesday.

Taking to Twitter, Tendulkar lauded the 'clean striking' by Samson which included 'all proper cricketing shots'. His innings was studded with nine sixes and a four. "Clean striking by @IamSanjuSamson. They were all proper cricketing shots and not slogs. Smartly bowled by @NgidiLungi. Short, wide and slow. #CSKvsRR," Tendulkar tweeted.

Replying to former batsman Samson wrote, "Thanks a lot sir,," Taking to Twitter Congress MP Shashi Tharoor from Thiruvananthapuram wrote, "Just an amazing innings by Thiruvananthapuram's own @IamSanjuSamson. Yesterday he showed the nation & the world what he can do, with clean "proper cricketing shots" (~@sachin_rt), minimal fuss & sublime timing. The way he was batting put him on another level. So proud of him."

Samson was awarded Man of the Match for his knock which helped Rajasthan Royals reach 216/7 in the allotted twenty overs. Skipper Steve Smith made 69 runs. The game-changing moment came in the final over of Rajasthan's innings with Jofra Archer smashing CSK's Lungi Ngidi for 30 runs.



MAN OF THE MATCH: Sanju Samson of Rajasthan Royals plays a shot during match 4 of season 13 of the IPL 2020 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium, in Sharjah on Tuesday.

"My game plan is to stand and deliver. If it's in the arc I go for it, and it's very important to keep the intent to hit the ball if it's there to be hit. I've been working hard on my fitness, diet and training, and on my strength, because my game relies a lot on power hitting," Samson told Star Sports at the post-match presentation.

"I think range-hitting is what the game demands in this generation. I had time to work out in these five months, and I think I have increased that ability. Everyone likes to keep wickets and no one likes running around, but it's up to the coach. We are happy to bring smiles on the fans' faces and we hope to continue doing so," he added.

While defending the score, Rahul Tewatia took three crucial wickets - Shane Watson, Sam Curran and Ruturaj Gaikwad. The spinner ended up with the figures of 3-37 from his four overs. For

Samson was awarded Man of the Match for his knock which helped Rajasthan Royals reach 216/7 in the allotted twenty overs

CSK, Faf du Plessis top-scored with 72 from just 37 balls.

The MS Dhoni-led side posted 200 in the end but lost the match by 16 runs.

CSK will next take on Delhi Capitals on September 25 while Rajasthan will face Kings XI Punjab on September 27.

Power-hitting ability After playing a magnificent knock of 74 runs from just 32 balls

Chennai Super Kings, Rajasthan Royals' wicket-keeper batsman Sanju Samson said that he worked on his power-hitting ability during the coronavirus-induced lockdown.

"My game plan is to stand and deliver. If it's in the arc I go for it, and it's very important to keep the intent to hit the ball if it's there to be hit. I've been working hard on my fitness, diet and training, and on my strength, because my game relies a lot on power hitting," Samson told Star Sports at the post-match presentation.

"I think range-hitting is what the game demands in this generation. I had time to work out in these five months, and I think I have increased that ability. Everyone likes to keep wickets and no one likes running around, but it's up to the coach. We are happy to bring smiles on the fans' faces and we hope to continue doing so," he added. **ANI**



Burj Khalifa lights up for Kolkata Knight Riders

DUBAI: Ahead of the match against Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League (IPL), Dubai's tallest building, Burj Khalifa has lit up in the colours of Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR).

The world's tallest building showcased a breathtaking LED display and honoured KKR by lighting up in their colours (purple and gold). "Before the fireworks tomorrow, here's the curtain-raiser! We won't stop, on our way to the Top with upwards arrow above. Thank you @BurjKhalifa for lighting up in #KKR colours. What a welcome to the UAE tonight," KKR tweeted.

Kolkata Knight Riders and Mumbai Indians will be facing each other at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi later today.

Talking about facing Mumbai Indians, KKR skipper Dinesh Karthik had said that it is good for his side that they are facing

Rohit-Sharma led side so early in the tournament.

"They (Mumbai Indians) have a team of world-class players, they are a strong lineup and the amount of IPL titles they have shows that. It's good that we are playing Mumbai early in the tournament, every year is a different year, I am sure it will be a great game tomorrow, Karthik had said during a virtual press conference.

Kolkata has a poor head-to-head record against Mumbai. The two teams have played 25 matches against each other, out of which 19 have been won by Rohit Sharma-led Mumbai.

KKR has bolstered their lineup with the addition of England skipper Eoin Morgan, Australian pacer Pat Cummins, USA pacer Ali Khan, and Australian spinner Chris Green. The side finished fifth in 2019 IPL and now it would be looking to go all the way. **ANI**

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

At least start leading from the front, Gambhir slams Dhoni

SHARJAH: Former India batsman Gautam Gambhir has slammed Chennai Super Kings (CSK) skipper, MS Dhoni, for coming to bat at number seven when the side was chasing 217 against Rajasthan Royals.

His remarks came after CSK's 16-run loss against Rajasthan Royals by 16 runs in the Indian Premier League (IPL). Dhoni came out to bat in the 14th over of the innings with CSK at 114/5. The side still needed 103 runs for the win at that time and many pundits and experts have said that Dhoni should have come in earlier. Sam Curran, Ravindra Jadeja, Ruturaj Gaikwad had come in front of Dhoni to bat against Rajasthan.

"I was a bit surprised, to be honest. MS Dhoni batting at No. 7? And sending Gaikwad before him, Sam Curran before him. Makes no sense to me. In fact, you should be leading from the front. And this is not what you call leading from the front. Batting at number seven



DHONI SLAMMED: Gambhir's remarks came after CSK's 16-run loss against Rajasthan Royals by 16 runs in the Indian Premier League.

when you're chasing what 217? The game was over. Faf was probably the lone warrior," ESPNcricinfo quoted Gambhir as saying.

"Yes, you can talk about MS Dhoni's last over when he hit three sixes, but it was of no use, to be honest. It was just all personal runs. See, if someone else would have done this, some other captain had batted number seven, he would have got a lot of flak. It is MS Dhoni - probably why people don't talk about it. When you don't have Suresh Raina, you're making people believe that Sam Curran is better than you. You're making people believe that Ruturaj Gaikwad, Curran, Kedar Jadhav, Faf du Plessis, M Vijay, all these guys, are better than you," he added.

Dhoni found going a little tough initially as he was able to score just nine runs off his first twelve balls, but in the final over as CSK needed 38 to win, Dhoni was able to smash 20 runs, including three sixes.

"There is nothing wrong if you

end up getting out early, at least start leading from the front, trying to inspire the team as well. What you did in the last over, probably if you'd done that coming in at No. 4 or 5, alongside Faf, you could have made a game out of it. But probably there was no such intent to make a game out of it," said Gambhir.

"I thought that after the first six overs, they had literally given up on the game. And probably MS was trying to get back into that match rhythm of batting till the end and get some runs under his belt so he can actually play these kind of innings in the coming games. You've got to be in the present, try and win each game possible. I thought there was no intent to win the game and they were never there in the chase. You can talk about Faf's innings, but Faf initially was struggling big time. So I thought it was an absolute miscalculation, probably not the right captaincy as well. This is not how you ask someone like MS to lead the side," he added. **ANI**

OMAN OIL PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased with prices for delivery by November 2020 reaching \$41.36, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose 9 cents from the price of Tuesday, which was \$41.27. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSM index closed at 3,621.66 points, down 0.14 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended flat 0.00 per cent at 517.52 points. Al Madina Investment, up 4.35 per cent was the top gainer while Vision Insurance, down 4.26 per cent, was the top loser.

E-platform pact for health insurance in Oman signed

Dhamani platform will link a database of more than 3.5 million visitors and 2.5 million workers with different health institutions

Times News Service

MUSCAT: An electronic platform agreement for compulsory health insurance system for private sector has been signed.

The Capital Market Authority (CMA) has concluded Dhamani platform contract with Infoline in collaboration with its strategic partner IQVA.

According to Dhamani, the platform will link a database of more than 3.5 million visitors and 2.5 million workers with different health institutions.

"It is a platform that links regulatory and supervisory authorities, insurance companies and health institutions with a unified database," Dhamani said.

The platform aims to connect all relevant parties, facilitate the exchange of information, raise the level of transparency and trust,

settle claims and transfer funds, provide indicators about the health insurance status and use an unified coding system.

The tender documents were prepared after studying the needs of the local market through meetings with the stakeholders such as insurance companies, health service providers, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Public Authority for Social Security as well as consideration of the regional and global experiences.

Key step

Dhamani scheme is considered one of five key steps designed by the CMA in collaboration with the entities concerned in the preparatory stage for implementation of health insurance scheme for the employees of the private sector, residents and visitors (Dhamani) to set out legislations,



STRATEGIC: The platform aims to connect all relevant parties, facilitate the exchange of information, raise the level of transparency and trust, settle claims and transfer funds, provide indicators about the health insurance status and use an unified coding system. - **ONA**

set up a database for health insurance sector, organise awareness campaign on the implementation mechanisms and how to deal with health insurance prod-

ucts beside conducting actuarial study on the prices.

The platform will contribute to the quality of insurance services and upgrading the level of trans-

parency and precision of all transactions as well as providing timely and accurate data on the market conditions and to reduce insurance fraud to maintain market sta-

bility and insurance companies.

It will also boost confidence in the health insurance market whether for patients or other participants due to the electronic link showing the history of the patient, medicines and description of the cases which would reflect positively on the sector as a whole.

It is noteworthy that implementation of Dhamani platform will be in phases due to the size of technical and operational requirements. The first phase will commence after signing the contract and will continue for nine months.

This phase includes building the platform and linking to the government entities concerned with health insurance schemes, insurance companies and health service providers for online exchange of health insurance transactions.

Then, the second phase which will take eight months and includes electronic payment features, verification of insurance coverage and data storage.

Finally, the third phase will continue for eight months and is related to training of the parties of the insurance relationship and government entities on the system components and work methods. This means that the platform will take 25 months for full implementation.

MUSCAT ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION

MEDC continues to ensure customer safety



LINE SERVICE CONNECTION: MEDC modified 2,380 overhead line service connections in Muscat as part of its plan to accomplish 3,000 installations in 2020. - **Photo used for illustrative purpose only**

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Muscat Electricity Distribution Company (MEDC), a member of Nama Group, continues its efforts to rearrange the overhead line service connections of old premises to enhance the public safety and ensure the

connection points in these houses meet safety standards.

Initiative

This initiative comes in line with MEDC's obligation to ensure customers safety and protect them against electrical hazards.

In 2019, MEDC modified 2,380

overhead line service connections in Muscat as part of its plan to accomplish 3,000 installations in 2020. MEDC had already completed 2,770 up to date, bringing the total number of modifications in Muscat governorate to 5,150 connections in houses.

It is worth noting that the overall

number of connections targeted exceeds 20,000. MEDC had subcontracted these tasks to qualified contractors to implement old overhead service connections in Muscat governorate over different phases.

MEDC seeks homeowners co-operation for successful completion of this project.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

'Dual circulation' policy to boost China's global economic growth

BEIJING: China's strategic focus on strengthening self-sufficiency while deepening opening-up will build up its economic resilience and boost global economic growth, economists observed.

Their analysis came following the country's recently strengthened commitment to establishing a "dual circulation" development pattern, in which domestic and foreign markets complement and reinforce one another, with the domestic market as the mainstay.

Dual circulation is seen as a strategic and win-win choice for China to reshape its international cooperation and new competitive edge, said renowned economist Justin Yifu Lin, honorary dean of the National School of Development at Peking University.

It does not mean the country will close its doors to the outside world. Instead, domestic circulation and international circulation will complement each other. A more open domestic market will thus do nothing but contribute to

the world economy, said Lin.

He noted that dual circulation underlies the message of rebalancing the economy, moving from one driven by exports and investment toward one more focused on domestic demand.

In recent years, consumption growth has accounted for more than half of China's total growth, with the role of exports diminishing drastically, according to Lin.

Such a shift in orientation is in line with China's pursuit of high-quality development and high-level opening-up, and will offer a strong boost to global trade and the world economy, said Lin.

Zhu Min, chairman of the National Institute of Financial Research at Tsinghua University, said China has proved to be an important engine of global economic growth as the world economy suffers from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

China recorded 3.2 per cent year-on-year growth in the second quarter. - **Xinhua**

LOGISTICS GROUP

Asyad Group adopts international practices to conserve marine environment

MUSCAT: Asyad Group aims at achieving growth and business continuity while keeping the sustainability of marine life high on its agenda, by adopting international standards and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit the Sulphur content in fuel oil in its operations. These efforts fall in line with the Sultanate of Oman Logistics Strategy (SOLS 2040) to cement Oman's global logistics hub position.

Asyad Group, true to its values, has been geared up to celebrate the World Maritime Day, observed annually on September 24 and held this year by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) on the theme: 'Sustainable Shipping for a Sustainable Planet'.

The logistics group is committed to supporting the efforts of authorities concerned preserve Oman's marine ecosystem and will continue to echo the global voice for preserving the natural capital locally and internationally, through its implementation of sound maritime transport practices.

Asyad Group adheres to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships



MARITIME TRANSPORT: Throughout its operations, the group translates the sustainable development goals in the area of maritime transport into long-term initiatives. - **ONA**

(MARPOL Annex VI), throughout its maritime operations as part of its efforts to protect the maritime environment. Green initiatives, such as using Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO); prohibiting fuel or plastics discharge into the marine environment; and controlling ships ballast water and sediments are key business policies and practices within Asyad Group operations.

Throughout its operations, the group translates the sustainable

development goals (SDGs) in the area of maritime transport into long-term initiatives. Oman Shipping Company has been adopting several measures equipping its fleet with innovative technologies. In addition to installing scrubbers on board the ships as a means of emission control by purifying the exhaust gas before reaching out to the environment, the company uses Very Low Sulphur Fuel Oil (VLSFO) 0.5 per cent m/m, which

reduces sulfur dioxide (SO2) emission by 80 per cent, as well as silicone-based antifouling coatings for its ship hulls. Oman Shipping Company is also working on complying with the Ballast Water Management Convention, which means continuous exchange of the ballast water on the way from one port to another by not less than 200 nautical miles from the nearest land.

Additionally, all Omani ports pay attention to the sustainability of

the environment by adhering to international regulations and standards. The Port of Salalah, fitted with reception facilities, which works in compliance with the international and local requirements for Zero Tolerance of Illegal Discharges from Ships, provides a host of compliant logistics services centred on the safety of marine life. As for the Port of Duqm, it was established according to the best international environmental and safety standards to maintain maritime life.

In an unprecedented initiative, Sohar Port demonstrated its commitment to sustainable shipping by introducing a system that rewards international ships and shippers keen on reducing air emissions, following the IMO standards. Sohar Port gives a 5 per cent rebate on port dues to shipping companies that have made additional investments in their ships and crew to improve their environmental performance, safety and quality standards. This year witnessed a 40 per cent increase in rebates granted and 239 ships against 148 ships in 2019 were rewarded. Sohar Port is the only port in the Middle East and among 20 international ports

providing such incentives within the framework of the World Ports Climate Initiative.

Adhering to the quality requirements of MARPOL, Oman Dry Dock Company boasts integrated plants for recycling and disposing of chemical waste, as well as filtering and purifying bilge water and oily effluents before being discharged into the sea. Up to the end of August 2020, the quantities of treated and discharged water increased by 29 per cent compared to that of 2019. Furthermore, Oman Dry Dock Company has sold 4,073 tonnes of the oil it recycled this year; adding another revenue stream to the Company and registering a 140 per cent increase in the volume of sold recycled oil compared to last year.

Sinyar-Ferries have been following the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Annex VI) Air Pollution requirements, by limiting the Sulphur content in fuel oil and using eco-friendly waterjet propulsion solutions and built-in exhaust cooling systems; reducing gas emissions by 77 per cent compared to regular ferry engines. - **ONA**

MARKET

MSM index ends lower

The top gainer was Al Madina Investment which closed higher by 4.35% while top loser was Vision Insurance which closed lower by 4.26%

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,621.66 points, down 0.14 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended flat 0.00 per cent at 517.52 points. Al Madina Investment, up 4.35 per cent was the top gainer while Vision Insurance, down 4.26 per cent, was the top loser. Ahli Bank Perpetual Bonds 2019 was the most active in terms of the number of shares traded and also was the most active in terms of turnover. A total number of 192 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR1.0 million, with more than 2.6 million shares changing hands. Out of 29 traded stocks, 5 advanced, 9 declined and 15 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC and Arab investors were net buyers for OMR747,000 while local investors were net sellers for OMR728,000 followed by foreigners for OMR20,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed by 0.40 per cent at, 5,826.23 points. Al Madina Investment was up by 4.35 per cent. Vision Insurance, Oman Arab Bank, National Bank of Oman, Gulf Investment and Al Anwar Holding were down by 4.26 per cent, 3.76 per cent, 1.79 per cent, 1.54 per cent and 1.45 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 3,955.23 points, up 0.05 per cent. Raysut Cement was up by 0.65 per cent. National Aluminium and Al Jazeera Steel were down by 1.94 per cent and 0.84 per cent respectively. Services index was up 0.33 per cent before closing at 1,566.26 points. Renaissance Service, Shell Oman and Omantel were up by 2.50 per cent, 1.43 per cent and 0.64 per cent respectively. — United Securities

MAN STOCKS

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSM30 Index	3,626.05	3,608.13	3,621.66	3,626.77	-5.11	-0.14
Financial Index	5,833.18	5,788.78	5,826.23	5,849.52	-23.29	-0.40
Industrial Index	3,956.29	3,953.00	3,955.23	3,953.32	1.91	0.05
Services Index	1,568.09	1,561.10	1,566.26	1,561.10	5.16	0.33
MSM SHARIAH INDEX	517.55	517.52	517.52	517.51	0.01	0.00
MSM TOTAL RETURN	4,128.14	4,107.74	4,123.15	4,128.96	-5.81	-0.14

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
2,637,413	1,082,542	195	19,817,766,259	5	9	15	29

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR	LAST RD	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	12,530	4,113	9	0.326	0.330	0.326	0.328	0.320	0.008	2.500	0.328	0.322	0.328	77,542,480
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	13,113	4,056	7	0.310	0.310	0.304	0.310	0.308	0.002	0.649	0.304	0.304	0.310	62,000,000
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOMMUNICATION	20,000	12,640	3	0.632	0.632	0.632	0.632	0.628	0.004	0.637	0.632		0.632	0.100 474,000,000
OM0000001525	OMAN INVESTMENT AND FINANCE	124,000	11,284	3	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.000	0.000	0.091	0.089	0.091	18,200,000
OM0000002176	AL JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	297,689	31,555	22	0.106	0.107	0.104	0.106	0.106	0.000	0.000	0.105	0.105	0.107	0.100 13,239,184
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	131,250	12,575	5	0.096	0.096	0.095	0.096	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.095	0.095	0.096	0.100 233,712,647
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	139,287	54,026	27	0.388	0.388	0.386	0.388	0.388	0.000	0.000	0.388	0.386	0.388	0.100 252,566,361
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	135,784	49,580	12	0.368	0.368	0.364	0.366	0.368	-0.002	-0.543	0.364	0.364	0.368	0.100 1,189,325,249
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	31,000	11,634	6	0.350	0.380	0.350	0.376	0.380	-0.004	-1.053	0.378	0.364	0.378	0.100 37,600,000
OM0000001772	AL ANWAR HOLDING	16,000	1,088	4	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.069	-0.001	-1.449	0.068	0.067	0.068	0.100 13,600,000
Total	10	920,633	192,551	98											
Parallel Market															
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT	6,390	153	3	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.024	0.023	0.001	4.348	0.024	0.023	0.024	0.100 4,971,633
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	25,100	21,386	3	0.852	0.860	0.852	0.852	0.840	0.012	1.429	0.860	0.852	0.900	0.100 80,940,000
OM0000001178	MUSCAT GASES	4,700	1,025	1	0.218	0.218	0.218	0.219	0.219	0.000	0.000	0.218	0.218	0.228	0.100 6,570,000
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	20,000	1,680	2	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.084	0.086	0.100 10,500,000
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	1,000	186	2	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.000	0.000	0.186	0.180	0.186	0.100 16,740,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	366	51	2	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.129	0.140	0.100 230,952,045
OM0000002226	AL JAZEERA SERVICES	275,544	47,957	16	0.174	0.175	0.172	0.174	0.174	0.000	0.000	0.175	0.172	0.175	0.100 10,649,544
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING AND CON.	51,200	2,509	6	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.049	0.049	0.050	0.100 14,209,051
OM0000004735	SEMBICORP SALALAH	353	40	1	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.000	0.112	0.105	0.112	0.100 104,048,343
OM0000004768	AL MADINA TAKAFUL	10,000	750	2	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.000	0.000	0.075	0.074	0.075	0.100 13,125,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	62,180	3,358	8	0.055	0.055	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.054	0.053	0.054	0.100 38,577,942
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	15,000	810	1	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.056	0.100 78,980,479
OM0000002820	GULF INVEST SERVICES HOLDING	56,520	3,617	5	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.065	-0.001	-1.538	0.064	0.064	0.065	0.100 3,765,966
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN	123,011	20,346	26	0.162	0.166	0.154	0.165	0.168	-0.003	-1.786	0.163	0.162	0.163	0.100 268,281,149
OM0000004925	AL BATINAH POWER	20,000	1,060	3	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.054	-0.001	-1.852	0.053	0.053	0.054	0.100 35,769,034
OM0000001319	NATIONAL ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS	9,835	997	3	0.101	0.102	0.101	0.101	0.103	-0.002	-1.942	0.102	0.099	0.102	0.100 3,390,716
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	203,158	41,647	7	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.205	0.213	-0.008	-3.756	0.205	0.205	0.213	0.100 342,229,050
OM0000006920	VISION INSURANCE	82,423	7,418	5	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.094	-0.004	-4.255	0.090	0.085	0.090	0.100 9,000,000
Total	18	966,780	154,990	96											

ECO-INNOVATE OMAN

Initiative to support SMEs specialising in waste management

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Due to its belief in the importance of sustainability, the Oman Environmental Services Holding Company (be'ah) has launched the Eco-Innovate Oman (EiO) accelerator programme to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) specialising in the environmental sustainability, and waste management sectors, and to support the Omani SME ecosystem by promoting the circular economy.

This programme is considered the first-of-its-kind in the Sultanate and was launched last year in collaboration with Inspired Solutions, a business consultancy firm.

Main objective

The accelerator's main objectives are to create jobs through entrepreneurialism and diversify Oman's economy in support of Oman's Vision 2040 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Dr Farah Al Barwani, Research and Development Manager at



Dr Farah Al Barwani, Research and Development Manager at be'ah.

be'ah, said, "We were glad to have chosen a number of ambitious SMEs in all levels of development and that have high potential in the fields of environmental sustainability, waste management, agriculture, education, aquaculture, biotechnology, environmental

tourism, and other eco sectors."

"The participating SMEs have completed the first stages of the accelerator which involved a three-month boot camp and 1-on-1 coaching sessions. They are currently involved in one-on-one coaching sessions to further pre-



William R. Crew, CEO of Inspired Solutions.

pare them to become investment-ready. The final stage of the accelerator involves preparing the SME's to pitch to investors," Dr Farah added.

The EiO was launched at the end of 2019 and received the first batch of SMEs in March 2020. Fourteen

startups were taken to the programme based on their specialisations in resource management and environmental sustainability.

On the commercial side of the programme, William R. Crew, CEO of Inspired Solutions stated, "It has been so exciting to person-

ally witness the commercial development of the entrepreneurs who have been participating in Eco-Innovate Oman. Over the past many months they have all grown and embraced the principles of impact entrepreneurialism of creating not only financial returns but also environmental and social returns as well."

He also added, "During the 3 month-long boot camp earlier this year they learned the fundamentals of product/market fit and market research and validation. Right now they are being coached to prepare investment proposals and are learning how to pitch for investment growth financing. By the end of the year, we anticipate that many of them will have secured funding and will be a position to scale up, not only in Oman but into the GCC and beyond."

It is noteworthy that Inspired Solutions is a local consultancy company that designs and manages development programmes for Omani SME's, it has trained over 130 Omani SMEs since 2012.

SEATRADER MARITIME MIDDLE EAST

Opportunity for maritime professionals to interact with influential business leaders

DUBAI: Seatrade Maritime Middle East, the region's leading event in the shipping industry, will kick-off virtually from December 14-16.

Using the latest in digital technology, the three-day interactive online event will bring together maritime buyers, industry suppliers, solution-providers and equipment manufacturers from around the world. With a special focus on technology, the platform will be a great opportunity for maritime professionals to generate business leads, elevate their profile and gain access to insights from business leaders in the field.

Over the years, Seatrade Maritime Middle East has proven to be the epicentre of several maritime activities, uniting the maritime industry. It acts as a hub that connects proactive maritime suppliers from every industry with influential stakeholders and ship-owners. Stakeholders can identify exciting business opportunities, find solutions to overcome business challenges, shaping the landscape of the Middle East region that is constantly evolving as a world-class maritime hub.

The Federal Transportation Authority for Land and Maritime has been one of the strategic government supporters to Seatrade Maritime Middle East.

Commenting on that, Eng. Ahmed Sharif Al Khouri, Director-General of the Federal Transportation Authority for Land and



SHIPPING INDUSTRY: Seatrade Maritime Middle East is set to make a virtual return. — Supplied picture

Maritime said, "The UAE's has always been committed to strengthening the position of the maritime industry. Even today, despite the global disruption that has impacted every sphere in life and businesses around the world, the leaders of the country are striving hard to maintain normalcy through several directives, to stabilise the market and make it resilient. We are pleased to see that events like Seatrade Maritime are providing considerable support to businesses in the country and are addressing pressing problems that the industry is facing during this difficult time. Their initiative to enlighten and train the next generation of maritime profes-

sionals is also noteworthy. We are looking forward to witnessing how the virtual edition of the tradeshow empowers the country and the maritime sector."

Digital transformation

This year, the format of the event has been refined to adapt to the changing times. Chris Morley, Event Director, Seatrade Maritime said, "Despite the pandemic, industry professionals were keen on networking and collaborating, so going digital was the ideal solution since seems to be a preferred choice now. Seatrade Maritime Middle East Virtual will echo the core values of the physical edition of the event. The tradeshow

is a highly anticipated event in the region and we do not want to deprive our patrons of this enlightening experience. We believe that coming together now is imperative so that we can tackle the pandemic collectively and help businesses overcome these challenging times."

The event will offer an unrivalled and immersive digital experience, acting as an online forum for professionals to network and forge valuable business relationships. Attendees will have access to well-curated content including webinars, engaging videos and exclusive podcasts featuring industry thought leaders.

An intuitive business environment will help exhibitors have a seamless experience, transcending geographical boundaries with access to a network of over 60,000 proactive industry professionals.

Last year, the event featured speakers from prestigious organisations including ADNOC, the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), DP World - Maritime Services Division and Lloyd's Register. Renowned thought-leaders shed light on how technology is shaping the Middle East market and the impact it will have in the future. The 2020 edition will focus on key themes including Road to Recovery, Clean Shipping, Supply Chain Resilience, Crew Welfare and Education and Shipping Technology.

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INDIAN MALE, EXPERIENCE 23YEARS (18YEARS GCC) IN ELV/BMS/FIRE SYSTEMS, SEEKS JOB WITH NOC.

CONTACT 72144127, RAMESH4974@GMAIL.COM

ADMIN/OPERATIONS/CORPORATE SUPPORT /MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS/HR

Smart Indian professional, excellent English, Masters-Journalism, Finance, Arabic Speaker, strong writing, research skills, 15+ years diversified Oman experience in Airport Project/ Healthcare/Media/EPC. NOC. **99283938**

rajansampath@hotmail.com

Project Manager/Construction Manager

20 years experienced Civil Engineer (10 years-Oman, 8 years-UAE) currently working as Senior Construction Manager in top reputed organization in Oman. Seeking opportunities in a reputed company.

Email: johnv199497@gmail.com +971543086708 / +96894017400

FINANCE

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

Contact 94953826 / 92824146

SITUATION WANTED

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

Experience 11 years in clearing Government and Private transactions. Omani Nationality.

Contact: Shakir - 79909955 Email: shak.star142@gmail.com

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian Male, 40 Years, B.Com + CA intermediate, having more than 15 Years of experience (12 years in Oman) in the different positions as Accounts Manager, Internal Auditor and statutory auditor. currently working as Finance Manager, seeking similar Managerial position in finance.

NOC available. Contact: 99169501

LOGISTICS / HR / ADMIN / ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL

OVER 9 YEARS IN OMAN B. COM., INDIAN, MALE, 31 YEARS OLD, DRIVER'S LICENSE AND NOC AVAILABLE READY TO START IMMEDIATELY

Contact 968-71532254

ACCOUNT/ADMIN

Omani 6 yrs exp in Account/Admin with diploma.

Contact 99340475 saidzadjali@gmail.com

MULTI-SKILLED INDIAN MALE

25+ years (7 years GCC) Well experience in Accounts/ Administration/HR Available to join immediately with Release and D/L.

Contact 78093227

Indian Male, Seeking Job urgently in **Logistics, Warehouse or Administration**

NOC available. Driving Licence Available. Having 15+ years of experience in GCC countries and India. Educational Qualification: MBA in Supply Chain, Logistics + Commerce Degree.

Contact Number: 97880684

ADMINISTRATION

INDIAN, female, MBA, 4 years experience in Office Administration and Customer Service (Banking & Construction field), knowledge of MS packages, currently on family visa, available for immediate joining.

Mob: 95073054 Email: bfaqua88@gmail.com

ACCOUNTANT

Indian male 31, B.Com & Diploma in Islamic banking & Finance, 8 years exp in Oman, looking for Accountant jobs. Can handle up to finalization. D/L & NOC Available.

Contact 98195964

Project Engineer (Interior fitout and civil)

B.E. Civil, 27, with 5+ years Oman experience as Project Engg. looking for suitable openings in Retail, hospitality, fitout etc Experienced in Project management, Interior fit-out & construction. Valid Oman D/L and NOC available.

Contact : 94657347

Bsc In Civil Engineering, MBA in Project Management, PMP certified, having 14 yrs experience(12yrs in Oman) with experience of construction of 4 star hotel, Airports, commercial & residential buildings, factories, Oil stations, is looking for a suitable placement. Having Oman Driving licence.

Contact 99721926, tanvircivil@gmail.com

SENIOR MANAGER / PROJECT DIRECTOR – CIVIL ENGINEERING

Very widely experienced both in Consultancy and Construction looking for a placement at top management level or on partnership.

Contact: winnerdandd@gmail.com Mobile/WhatsApp 95150850, 79163390

Piping / Stress Engineer

Indian, 36 male, Piping / stress Engineer, 13+years experience in onshore / offshore / pipeline in Oil & Gas. Knowledge in Caesar, AutoCAD, Mavis work, MsOffice, PDS looking for suitable job, join immediately.

Contact no. 94342605; shahahmed142@gmail.com

12+ Years Experienced HSE Professional

9+ years in Gulf & 7+ Years in a managerial role in Oman. Engineering background with MBA in HSE, Nebosh IGC, INTL. Dip.Nebosh, 3 CPD-UK certificates, etc., seeks senior/manager the position holds Oman driving license & NOC, can join immediately.

Contact details: 99377048

JOB WANTED

ENGINEER

Indian BE Civil engineer, 8.5 yrs experience (06 yrs in Oman) in building construction & Industrial projects with Oman valid light DL & local NOC available, **Contact 98886175, Email ex.igpprakasam@gmail.com**

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

Diploma in Electrical and Electronics on visit. seeking job, 20 yrs experience in Panel troubleshooting, panel development work, VFD, Cranes service, Machine servicing . Can join immediately. **Contact 92375607, 92145430 Email: murugavel_maruthappan@yahoo.com**

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

Planning Engineer currently working in Muscat, having a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering with 11 year's experience in Civil Construction. I'm looking for a well-established Company to gain a competitive edge in Oman. Valid GCC Driving License holder. **Contact 91007054**

Experience HVAC Engineer facility maintenance around 20years experience. **Contact 94307181 Email minhaj.mohamed@gmail.com**

Indian male 23 years mechanical engineer with one year experience in manufacturing sector, presently on visit visa looking for a suitable opening. **Contact 94683565, ms001suhail@gmail.com**

BSc.Survey Engineer 5 years experience in construction, Pipeline, Infrastructure and road works. **Contact 96047403**

Indian male, 18 years experience in Electrical engineering & Procurement. Seeking projects & operation field Willing to join immediately with NOC Posses driving licence. **BE E.E.E, MBA. Contact 72324160, Email globaleng360@gmail.com**

DRIVER

Looking job of driver with 9 years experience in Oman. **#93191575**

Light driver with very well knowledge of Oman roads & areas. can speak English, arabic & Hindi. Looking suitable job. **Contact 79250786**

6 years experience in driving. Looking for job. **Contact 97133246**

Looking for driver job. # 94447012

Bangaldeshi looking driver job. **Contact 99007210, 96409814**

Looking for driver's job having 3 yrs experience in Oman Market. Languages know English, Hindi& Arabic. **Contact 96701574, 98993350**

Looking for heavy driver job. **Contact 94087276**

Looking for driving job. 5 yrs experience with Car. **Contact 96176918**

Looking for Driver Job. # 93227735

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Mechanical engineer, male (25 yrs) qualified in MEP, NEBOSH, Autocad(Revit) seeking job. **Contact 79165700, 92015294, Email melvinsolomon16@gmail.com**

MEDICAL

Sudanese Pharmacist, Female, 4 years experience in community pharmacy, pharmaceutical industry, **GSM: 94533602**

IT

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

Smart Indian Female with 7+ years experience in IT Sales (Hardware & Software) having valid Oman DL. Looking for a suitable opportunity as IT Sales and Business Development in a reputed company. **Contact 968 78368961**

IT operations manager in a field of IT service management with 12+ years of experience is looking for suitable position. Presently in Malaysia. **Contact no: +60163721367, Email id:azmat.aly@gmail.com**

MISCELLANEOUS

Omani male 28 yrs old looking for a job as photographer or videographer. 9 yrs of experience in the same field. **Contact 96583959 .email anr.balochi91@gmail.com**

PURCHASE/LOGISTICS

Senior Procurement Engineer, M.tech-Civil, Looking for a job, NOC Available, Immediate Joining, Indian Male, 38yrs, have over 16+ years UAE& Oman experience. E. syedkamaalsaba@yahoo.com, Whatsapp +96871144578, Contact +917766019519

Procurement specialist/logistic coordinator, 8+ yrs experience in Oman with MNC Oil & Gas co.D/L & NOC available. **Contact 96095376**

Indian M.com graduate holding Oman DL, 05 Years plus experience in purchase / Supply Chain in international restaurants / Franchisees looking for a suitable job. NOC available. **GSM: 90197061 Email shakeeb77721@gmail.com**

Indian Male 45 yrs with 16 yrs exp in Oman as Logistic Supervisor, seeks a job in Warehouse/Distribution/FMCG companies, GCC D/L & NOC can be arranged. **Mob: +968-71689224, Email truefails@rediffmail.com**

Procurement Officer 20 years experience in Oman looking for suitable position. **Contact 97903411**

Procurement officer with 19 yrs experience in construction. **Email u.bati307@gmail.com**

Contracts Manager / Project Manager

Indian Male BE Civil Engineer with 13+ Year's Experience in Oman, Knowledge in AutoCAD, MS Office, Staad Pro, Water Cad, 3D, Project scheduling, BBS & other softwares. Widely experienced all over construction field including landscape & irrigation, structural erection, portacabin, MEP, Consultation, Tendering, Bidding etc.. looking for suitable placement. Ready to join immediately with D/L & NOC.

GSM: 98446050 E mail:deneeshdaniel@gmail.com

JOB WANTED

MANAGER

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

20Yrs experienced Indian commerce graduate, 3 Years of Fleet management in FMCG sector, 7 years of Contracts, Transportation at Oil & Gas sector in Oman, and 10years of Administration in India. D/L & NOC available. Call/Whatsapp **94777651**

Project Manager, 17yrs experience, 11 yrs in Oman on projects execution worked with reputed contracting companies, commercial, residential & government projects. looking for suitable position. **Contact 99470854, 94361538**

TOURS/TRAVELS

Looking for travel agency (IATA/ Non IATA) job ticketing & reservation. 5 yrs experience in non IATA travel agency. **Contact 99545973**

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

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

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

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

Financial Manager, CMA (USA), CFA, MBA with 13 years experience with Multi National Companies and large corporates seeks senior position. Experienced in Financial Planning & Analysis, Management Accounting, VAT and Process Management. Holds Licence and NOC. Available to join immediately. **Contact: 92771782; daisonpjacob@yahoo.com**

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

Housemaid required for a Keralite family at Darsait. Should have experience in household work, baby care. **Contact 97332392**

Urgently required experienced South Indian male cook (Veg/ Non-veg) cum houseboy for Senior company official residence at Ghubra Area. Interested medically fit candidate. Candidate with Omani DL preference. **# 99273774 / 99202278**

SALES / MARKETING

Sales manager(MBA) with 6 years experience specialised in seafood and FMCG for HORECA and hyper-market sector looking for suitable position. NOC available. **Contact +968 78321364**

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

Indian male, 18yrs of experience in outdoor sales of FMCG and electronics is seeking suitable placement. DL and NOC available. **Contact 91290046**

Indian Male 37 Years, Graduate in Finance Management . Oman 10 Years Experience. Interested in Sales & Marketing . Driving Licence Available . Looking for a Suitable Position. **Contact No. 78312303**

Indian male 34 yrs, 7 yrs exp in outdoor Sales Muscat/Sohar region. FMCG/Telecom, NOC available. Transferable visa. **Contact 98144874**

Salesman/office driver, 15 yrs experience. Valid D/L. Muscat area. **Contact 79818772**

B.E Civil Indian M 24 Y Sales Exp in Sales/Marketing/Team Lead/ Manager/Business Development. Available in Oman with NOC. Looking for Any Job. **Contact 78186546**

Indian Male 32, having over 9 years of oman exp in sales & Marketing is seeking for a suitable placement. NOC & Valid Oman Driving license available **Gsm 92460904**

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

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Accounts and Finance Manager with MBA Financial degree, 13 yrs in Oman & 15 yrs. in other countries seeking immediate job with Family status. **# 99883983 or uthayakumaransaravanan@gmail.com**

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

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

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Looking for a job for the post of

Electrical Engineer

Btech and 15 years exp in Oman. NOC and Release available.

Contact 92254336 ameen1667@gmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Civil engineer 12 years experience in oman NOC available **# 98047527**

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs of experience. 5yrs & 10 months of Oman experience. NOC available seeking suitable placement. **Contact 968 91226236 Email: tonymxxx@gmail.com.**

Electrical engineer 6+ years HV/ LV experience, Doqm Refinery exp. IOISH+6 Safety courses D/L, **Contact 79474387**

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

Accounts Manager working in a reputed company in Oman for 13 year's looking for immediate job. Release available. **Contact 99883983**

Mechanical Engineer (B.tech) having 5 years Oman experience as Sr Production And Procurement Engineer is seeking suitable job in Oman. Also have Oman D/L and NOC is available. **Contact 92138450 WhatsApp +919544074049**

Senior Copywriter with 21 years Oman experience seeks placement in Ad Agencies/Corporate Communications. Call **95234657.**

Smart Indian, Professional with integrity, Arabic speaker, double Masters, excellent English, commercial acumen, strategy, 15 years rich Oman experience in Airport Project, Hospital, Media, EPC. **99283938. NOC**

Smart Indian, Arabic speaker, Excellent English, Masters-Journalism, Finance, Oman experience in Corporate/Marketing Communications, Press Releases, CSR Programs, Marketing, Customer Relations, Events, Campaigns, **#99283938. NOC**

Indian male, 31 Age, Single, B.E (Civil), 10Years experience in the construction field (7 years in Oman & 3 years in India), NOC available, seeking job for the post of Project engineer. **# 79218189, ganeshkumargk1188 @gmail.com**

IT System administrator Indian male 28 BE CSE CCNA graduate with 5 yrs experience in Indian looking for suitable job. On visit .**Contact 93674784**

23 Years Indian Male, Diploma In Mechanical Engineering. 1 Years work experience in Oman. Available on family join visa. Looking for suitable placement. **Contact 968- 79121923, 99224057**



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IT System administrator Indian male 28 BE CSE CCNA graduate with 5 yrs experience in Indian looking for suitable job. On visit. Contact 93674784

23 Years Indian Male, Diploma In Mechanical Engineering. 1 Years work experience in Oman. Available on family join visa. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 968- 79121923, 99224057

An Experienced HR Professional (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately. IELTS: 6.5-Bands. Phone / WhatsApp: +968949773471. Email hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Indian Female, B.E. in Electronics & Communication + CCNA (Routing & Switching) fresher, studied in Oman, looking for suitable placements. Contact 99636352

Indian Male-43 yrs. Experience in trailer driver, GCC holding valid heavy licence. Seeking suitable job. NOC available. Mob - 99449686, 91- 9526956869.

Female, Planning Engineer, BE Mech. 13 years experience with oil & gas Engineering Field and construction Projects seeking a suitable job. Contact no : 97408929

Diploma in Electrical Engineer (8 years Experience in Installation of LT line, Vendor Coordination, Arrange Quotation from supplier for Tender/Work). Contact 91-9771492886

Filipino male w/ release., with 8 years exp. in OMAN: ADMIN, accounting, purchasing, Knows Tally ERP 9 and microsoft's excel, 97890657, email: hernandezjanlouis27@gmail.com

B.Tech in Civil Engineering (structural), 23 yrs fresher (trained for 5 months) seeking job as structural Engineering, familiar with various software. Contact 78274434. Email mohammedarshadjunaid@gmail.com

Indian well experienced sr accountant or Chief accountant, looking for suitable placement. Contact 95362046. Email srjobinoman@yahoo.com

AutoCAD Draftsman with 8 years of Oman Experience, Architecture & Structural drafting. N.O.C available. Contact: 78253720

HSE OFFICER, 15 years experience. Seeking job to join a reputed firm. Contact WhatsApp -968-99626821

Accountant Indian Male 26yrs with MBA Finance having 5yrs experience, 3yrs in Oman looking for suitable position of an Accountant. NOC Available. GSM: 95394439. Email: mohdanas040@gmail.com

A Technical Graduate with around 2 Years' Experience in HR-Admin, seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, Desktop-Support (IT), Data Entry or IT Teacher. IELTS: 6.5-Bands. Contact / WhatsApp: +968949773471. Email: hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Indian/male (28)/MBA/4 years' experience in procurement and coordination with valid Oman. licence. Available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194. Email: suhailbs@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer - NIT Surat, Gujarat, India - Oman resident with DL - one year work experience - Contact: 91756930

Indian male M.Tech(ECE) 4 yrs exp. as a Sales Engineer in Industrial Automation, PLC, SCADA with a valid Saudi D/L. Looking for a good opportunity. # 98240758 mohdrashidali87@gmail.com

Indian 15 yrs Oman experience B.Com, ICWA9(Inter) PGDBM head-ed Finance, logistics established Company. 93870808, 93883272

Electrical Engineer 4 yrs 6 months experience with NOC available. Contact 90863138. Email guntisiddharth@gmail.com

An Experienced HR Professional (Indian) (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately. On visit expires 6th Feb. IELTS: 6.5-Bands. Phone / WhatsApp: +968 94977347. Email: hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Civil Engineer Contact 78012115

Indian Male HR /Admin - MBA, BCOM having 9 years experience in Gulf 5 yr and India 4 yr looking for suitable placement. # 97914340. Email: rahulkv30@yahoo.com

Part time Accounts/Data entry. Experienced Accountant looking for part time Accounts/Data entry job. Please contact: 98649698

Indian Male, 15 years Oman experience with valid Oman D/L looking for job in sales. NOC available. Contact 95356820

Result driven business manager seeking an opportunity where 15 years of trading and management experience can be applied to improve the sales and enhancing the company revenue. # 95124176

Indian Male 29 years B.E(Civil) having 6 yr Gulf experience as Project coordinator looking for suitable placement. Oman D/L # 99682689. fayiz.yh@gmail.com

Indian Male HR /Admin and Purchase - MBA, BCOM having 9 years experience in Gulf 5 yr and India 4 yr looking for suitable placement. Contact : 97914340. Email: binthjumatrading@gmail.com

Indian Male - Accountant MCOM, BCOM having 7 years experience in Gulf 4yr and India 3yr looking for suitable placement. Contact : 97432723. Email: tonythomasjohn777@gmail.com

Looking part-time housemaid job surrounding area of Ghobra / Aziba like cooking, washing & cleaning post-delivery support, baby care. contact 79293053.

Male, looking for a job in administration or office coordinator, extremely familiar with the Oman market. Not looking into Sales or Marketing. Looking forward to hearing from potential companies. Having D/L. # 93264375 email: vpnandakishore@gmail.com

Draftsman 2 years' experience. Looking for suitable job (Indian male). Contact 968 93083224/919791452601. Email: elaison.c@gmail.com

Indian Female 10 years, experience As Cook, South Indian, Gujarati Special, looking For Part Time. Contact : 95795971

Indian Male (30), MBA-Finance, 6 years experience in electrical and lighting industry as Sales Executive-project sales (outdoor), specialized in lighting for residential and commercial projects. Contact 94560161. Email qaisebukhari@gmail.com

Situation Wanted* Mechanical engineer specialized in quality inspection with cswip 3.1 & ASNT LEVEL II certifications looking for an opening in oil & gas industry. currently in Muscat. # 96206400 or awrunedathil@gmail.com

Indian male Diploma (Cinematography) & BA English with 5 yrs of experience in sales and Marketing field. Seeking suitable placement. currently in Oman on visit. Contact 78150989. Email: alexthomas927@gmail.com

B.Tech Electrical Engineer Indian male with 11 yrs of experience in contracting and consultant firms. Looking for job with Valid GCC driving license available. Contact 968-94343694. Email: ymansoor2@gmail.com

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MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Filipino Bathr. Interior Designer / IT Specialist/Graphic Designer, 13 years Exp. Looking for a job immediately with NOC and valid Omani D/L. Contact 79042628. Email zaldy08@gmail.com

33 Year old Indian male With 12+ Years' Experience As Operation Supervisor Project Expeditor /Quality Control in Oil & Gas, Water Line Industry. Contact 596661571. nasir03ahmed@outlook.com

Filipino, female 41 B.Sc accounting mgt., with 10 years' experience in Oman: admin, accounting, finance, secretarial, ticketing. Knowledge with excel. 96901439 email lorelie_a@yahoo.com

B.Com Graduate with four years of experience in Sales & Marketing in Oman with D/L. Can join immediately. Contact 93568656

Diploma holder 5 yrs work experience Indian male 26, looking for Indoor slaes/merchandiser, office assistant. Contact 968-78093683, whatsapp-94158447

Indian male 29 yrs having 5 yrs experience in FMCG sales & marketing in Oman with D/L. Can join immediately. Contact 78057807. Email nozi70072@gmail.com

MA B.Ed in English language, Indian female, 5 yrs experience in teaching seeking suitable positions in schools. Currently in Oman on family visa. # 79716167, 24033571

HSE Officer, 15 years experience. Seeking job to join a reputed firm. Contact WhatsApp 99626821

Indian Male (30) 8 Year's Experience in Sales and marketing and Office Administration on visit, seeking a challenging careers. D/L available. Contact 9412 2402. Email: shinto.samuelit@gmail.com

Indian male, 24 years holding a bachelor's in management and Masters in finance, presently pursuing ACCA. Looking for relevant job, holding valid GCC driving license. Contact 98189064. Email shahahr806@gmail.com

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ROUND-UP

VIRTUAL MEETING

OTC hosts travel, tourism and hospitality sector representatives



MUSCAT: As part of its endeavour to unify efforts and enhance cooperation between various entities in the tourism sector, the Internships and Placement Department at the Oman Tourism College (OTC) organised a virtual meeting for its industry partners.

Conducted via Microsoft Teams, the meet-up saw the presence of representatives from hospitality brands owned by Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran), travel and tourism agencies and event companies.

The primary objective of the meeting was to study the challenges faced by the relevant sectors due to the COVID-19 pandemic, its implications on practical training opportunities for OTC students and the solutions that can be applied in collaboration between various relevant authorities.

Commenting on the virtual event, Mohamed Al Rawahi, Head of Internships and Placement at OTC, said, "This meet-

ing stems from our commitment to always maintain continuous communication with all relevant entities working in the travel, tourism and hospitality sectors. Our main focus is being able to coordinate effectively to ensure that we are providing the best possible educational opportunities for our students, especially during this challenging time for the sector and the nation as a whole.

"It is necessary to work together and collectively come up with solutions to overcome our present obstacles, especially when it comes to providing practical training opportunities for students within various tourism institutions. We were delighted to witness a mutual response and, in cooperation with all participants, have unanimously agreed to continue offering practical training through digital channels for marketing, tourism and event management students.

"This way, we ensure that the minimum educational requirements for students are met, while also maintaining close communication with all parties. So that, together, we may develop alternative solutions to mitigate the educational impact during the current stage and in the future."

During the meeting, the need to maintain regular interaction and communicate any new developments in the tourism sector was emphasised. OTC would be able to support students with practical training programmes that reflect the standards of the academic curriculum taught in the classroom. The importance of regularly holding such meetings to discuss initiatives and methods for developing the tourism sector in the Sultanate was also highlighted.

This would be achieved through the provision of a highly-skilled trained and competent national workforce at various levels

of the tourism industry.

"On behalf of the management of OTC, I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the participants for taking part in this virtual meet-up. Their commitment to the future of OTC students, and the national tourism sector as a whole, is truly admirable. I am confident that through regular communication, we will be able to overcome the hurdles posed by the current situation and, together, we can build a more promising and prosperous future for the tourism sector in Oman," Mohamed added.

Oman Tourism College is the only academic institution that offers various study programmes related to tourism and hospitality in the Sultanate. It is an entity that provides a promising market with a highly competent and trained youth, which enhances its pivotal role in developing this sector at the level of the Sultanate.

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ROUND-UP



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Bank Muscat adds 3 new features to its mobile, Internet banking

These features will allow the instant generation of e-PINs for debit, credit and prepaid cards; the instant opening of additional savings accounts for existing customers; and the ability to block one's prepaid cards in case they are lost or stolen

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, in line with its vision 'To serve you better, everyday' and commitment to a customer-centric service culture has upgraded its new Omni-channel mobile and Internet banking with three new features to add further convenience and ease of banking.

These features will allow the instant generation of e-PINs for debit, credit and prepaid cards; the instant opening of additional savings accounts for existing customers; and the ability to block one's prepaid cards in case they are lost or stolen. The new features are available to customers through both mobile and Internet banking.

On this occasion, Amjad Iqbal Al Lawati, Assistant General Manager - Cards and Electronic Banking, Bank Muscat, said, "As the leading

financial services provider in the Sultanate, Bank Muscat is proud to have a number of innovative services and products that meet the requirements of our tech-savvy customers. We are happy to introduce these features which will further ease the delivery of banking services and products to our customers. The bank's Internet and mobile banking platforms are being upgraded regularly to be future-ready and this has resulted in a significant increase of active users on these platforms."

Bank Muscat customers can enjoy a fast and secure banking experience 24/7 from the comfort of their homes and offices. Today both Retail Internet and Mobile Banking customers extensively use the various features available such as bill payments, mobile top-ups, payments within Bank Muscat and



Oman and International transfers. They can make Speed Transfers to India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Bangladesh with instant credit to the beneficiary account in many cases, in addition to remittances to multiple countries

through the SWIFT network.

Bank Muscat had also earlier introduced a new Personal Finance Module, which assists Retail Banking customers to analyse their spending habits. Other new features include applying for IPOs



The bank's Internet and mobile banking platforms are being upgraded regularly to be future-ready and this has resulted in a significant increase of active users on these platforms

Amjad Iqbal Al Lawati
Assistant General Manager - Cards and Electronic Banking, Bank Muscat

and getting an enhanced account statement with more details. The Credit Card section has also been recently upgraded and has additional features including getting Credit Card statements, viewing pending transactions and see-

ing details of the customer's Easy Payment Plan (EPP). The customers can also view their prepaid card transactions and transfer funds to their prepaid cards instantly. The new system provides an easy way to make fund transfers within Bank Muscat by locating using the mobile number of the beneficiary to find beneficiary accounts. The bank has also integrated the Central Bank of Oman's Mobile Payments System into its Mobile Banking Platform which enables customers to transfer to or request money from others.

The Bank Muscat Mobile Banking app can be accessed on all iOS and Android devices and are available at the App Store, Google Play and Huawei AppGallery in both Arabic and English versions. Over the years, Bank Muscat has leveraged digital technology to offer secure and convenient payment channels in Oman to provide banking convenience for all its customers.

In recognition of its pioneering role in the country's financial services sector, Bank Muscat has the distinction of being consistently voted as the Best Bank in Oman by leading local, regional and global institutions year after year.

Prestigious awards won by the bank in the recent past include Best Consumer Digital Bank in Oman award by Global Finance as well as the Best Bank in Oman by Global Finance, EMEA Finance and Euromoney.

TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

Omantel pioneers 5G technology through more network expansions

MUSCAT: Omantel - the leading company in providing integrated telecommunication services in the Sultanate - continues its pioneering role in providing the 5G technology since it has launched the first 5G network in the Sultanate at the end of last year by expanding its network and adding new sites in several governorates around the Sultanate.

As part of its plans for expanding the 5G network, new stations have been added in the Wilayats where the service was previously launched. Furthermore, new stations were installed in a number of regions in 5 Wilayats where the 5G network was introduced. These Wilayats are Salalah, Taqa, Sur, Samail and Bahlaa. As a result, thousands of subscribers in these regions will be able to enjoy Home Internet with high speeds up to 1 Gbps.

Latest addition

Commenting on this, Engineer Aladddin Abdullah Bait Fadhil, Acting Vice President, Consumer Business Unit at Omantel, said, "5G technology is the latest addition to our network. Since we launched it last year, the network-enabled us to offer high-speed Home Internet in several new regions. This, in turn, would support our contribution to enabling the digital transformation in the Sultanate."

"We are proud of our subscribers' response to 5G technology. Over the past few months, new customers subscribed to different packages of our 5G Home Internet



service enjoying incomparable Internet speeds up to 1 Gbps which is perfect for online entertainment and games in addition to downloading and watching videos and movies easily.

"Our customers can choose from four different 5G Home Internet plans starting from RO 25. The 5G Home plan offers download speeds up to 20 Mbps, whereas the 5G Gaming offers speeds up to 40 Mbps, the 5G Entertainment which is the most popular plan offers download speeds up to 80

Mbps and the 5G Premium offers download speeds up to 1 Gbps," Bait Fadhil added.

It is worth mentioning that 5G technology is considered one of the enabling technologies of the 4th industrial revolution such as the Internet of things, artificial intelligence, blockchain technology and mega data technology.

It is envisaged that the services to be provided through the 5G network will lead to a breakthrough in many sectors including education, health, transport

and entertainment.

Besides, it is a key component in future smart cities projects.

Omantel is the pioneering telecommunications company in the Sultanate and the primary provider of integrated internet services for individuals, companies and government agencies. The company strives to promote growth and prosperity in all sectors of the Sultanate, along with providing a new concept of businesses and bringing in the global content and means of entertainment.

CAMPAIGN

Malabar Gold & Diamonds unveils its latest 'Everyday Jewellery Collection'

MUSCAT: Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one among the largest jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 250 outlets spread across 10 countries has unveiled the latest 'Everyday Jewellery Collection' showcasing a wide range of diamond jewellery at competitive prices starting from OMR80. This campaign showcasing a huge collection of certified diamond jewellery is available across all its outlets in Oman.

This unique collection from Malabar Gold & Diamonds gives every woman the possibility of owning their favourite piece of diamond jewellery, as the collections in 'Mine' - Diamond Jewellery, 'Era'



- Uncut Diamonds and 'Precia' - Precious Gem Jewellery brands showcased as part of 'Everyday Jewellery Collection' are available at various price points starting

from OMR80. Its huge collection of jewellery studded with classic and exquisite diamonds range from lightweight and daily wear to elegant party wear, providing the

appropriate piece of jewellery for every occasion.

Malabar Gold & Diamonds gives its customers the advantage of converting their jewellery purchase into 'Easy Payment Plans' in association with Sohar International & Bank Muscat through which they can enjoy flexible payment options for up to 12 instalments without paying any interest.

CAIE IGCSE EXAMINATIONS

Beaconhouse students defy COVID challenges with outstanding results in June IGCSE exams



Beaconhouse
OMAN

High Achievers IGCSE 2020

 Ijdan Ahmed Wasfi	 Zoha Tariq	 Maham Huma Jamal	 Areej Shoaib
9A*	8A*	8A*	8A*
		1A	1A

 Iadi Mohammad Shahood	 Rabie Haidar Abdullah	 Muhammad Waleed Tariq	 Maryam Abu Hassan Karir
7A*	3A*	2A*	2A*
2A	3A	4A	4A

 Iuhammad Anas Hussain	 Zinnara Ghani	 Edibe Yuksel
2A*	1A*	5A
3A	4A	

Beaconhouse Private School, PO Box: 116, P.C: 112, Near Mazoon College, Al Khuwair, Sultanate of Oman

MUSCAT: Once again Beaconhouse students have made the school proud by acquiring cent per cent results in the CAIE IGCSE Examinations.

"Our students have overcome the challenges faced during these unprecedented times.

"They have made remarkable progress through their determination and hard work and risen above all uncertainties," a school official said.

A truly commendable result comprising of 43 A*'s and 37A's. The star student at Beaconhouse is Wijdan Ahmed Wasfi who secured 9A's.

His success mantra was "A

right and positive approach towards exams can turn out to be an enriching experience. Need to stay focused during class and rely on lectures and guidance given by our teachers".

Another confident student is Zoha Tariq who secured 8 A's. Her motto was "Study smart, clarify your concepts and practice. Consistency is the key".

Our other shining stars are Maham Karim, Muhammad Anas Hussain, Saadi Mohammad Shahood, Waleed Tariq, Rabie Haider, Edibe Yuksel, Zinnara Ghani, Muhammad Umar, Syed Mubasheer Uddin.

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