



HIS MAJESTY
HOLDS MEETING
WITH KING OF
BAHRAIN AT AL
BARAKAH PALACE
>A6



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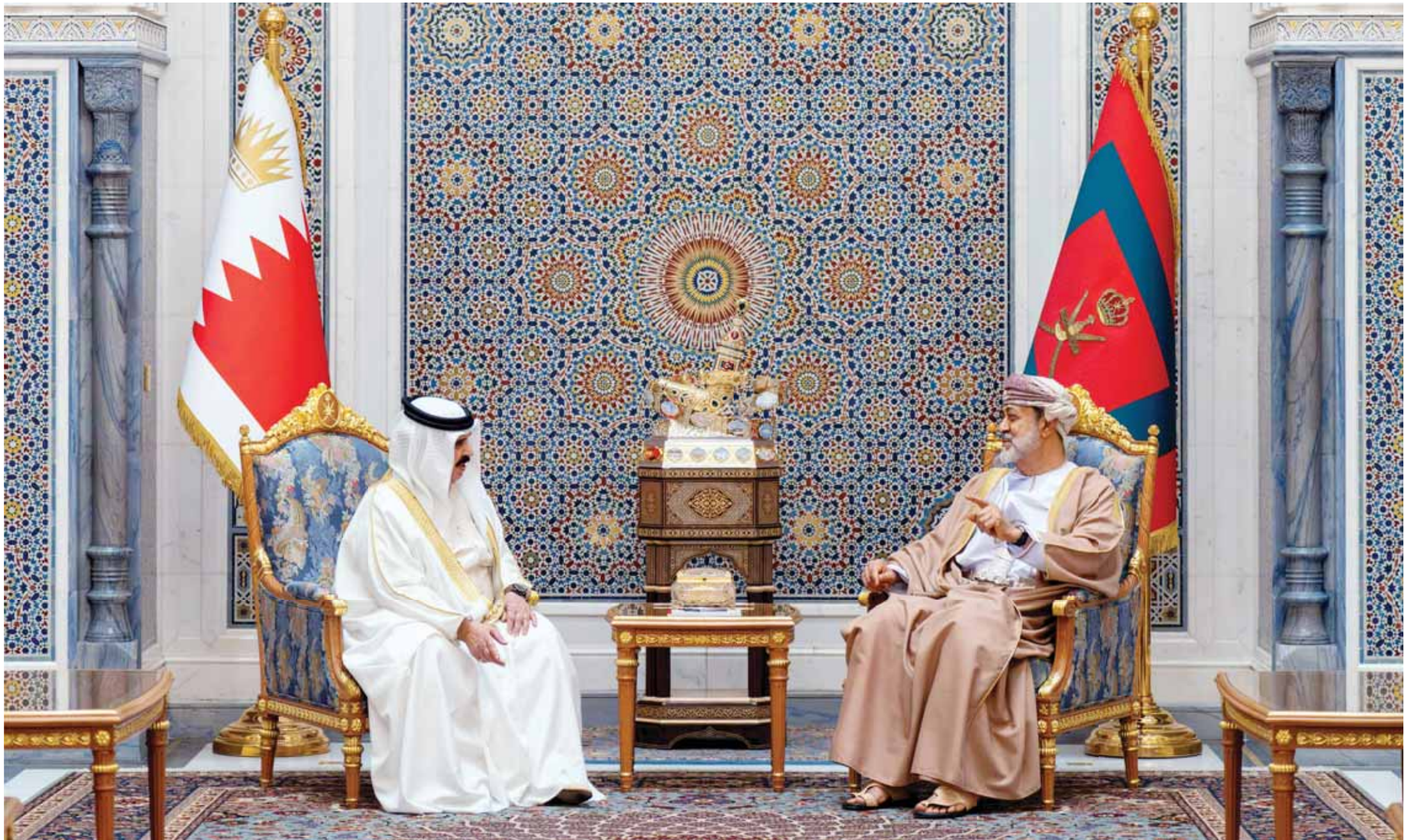
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HM, BAHRAIN KING HAIL ESTABLISHMENT OF OMANI-BAHRAINI INVESTMENT COMPANY

Oman, Bahrain sign 25 pacts, MoUs • HM the Sultan leads farewell party for King of Bahrain



Oman and Bahrain issued a joint communique on King Hamad's state-visit to the Sultanate

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and His Majesty King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain have welcomed the establishment of

the Omani-Bahraini Investment Company. They stressed the importance of expanding the scope of cooperation and economic partnership by exploring more oppor-

tunities, and encouraging the public and private sectors to diversify the areas of economic and investment partnership in a manner that meets the aspirations of the two countries and their peoples.

This was stated in a joint communique issued on the occasion of King Hamad's state-visit to the Sultanate of Oman. It reads as follows:

"Stemming from the deep-rooted bonds between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of

Bahrain, and the distinguished fraternal relations between His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, Sultan of Oman, and His Majesty King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, His Majesty the Sultan received His Majesty the King, who led a high-ranking delegation on a state-visit to the Sultanate of Oman on 14-15 January 2025. The visit aimed to promote the bilateral relations between the two countries.

During the visit, extensive talks

were held. The two sides reviewed the march of the joint action and the bilateral cooperation.

The two leaders lauded the progress in bilateral relations and the growth in mutual interests. They stressed the importance of expanding the scope of cooperation and economic partnership by exploring more opportunities, and encouraging the public and private sectors to diversify the areas of economic and investment partnership in a manner that meets the

aspirations of the two countries and their peoples. In this context, they welcomed the establishment of the Omani-Bahraini Investment Company, wishing it success.

During the visit, the two sides signed a number of agreements, memoranda of understanding and executive programmes in various fields of interest to both countries, including sectors and areas that would boost the partnership between the two sides. >A6

• See also >A2

THEATRE FESTIVAL

Sayyid Theyazin graces closing ceremony of theatre festival



MUSCAT: HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, yesterday presided over the closing of the Arab Theatre Festival's 15th edition, hosted by the Sultanate of Oman.

The closing ceremony of the 7-day festival was held at Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Award set for the 15th Arab Theatre Festival, titled "His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qasimi" Award" was won by Tunisian Opera Company (Theatre Pole) through its theatrical performance "Al-Bukhara".

HH Sayyid Theyazin handed over the winner's trophy to the winning troupe.

Meanwhile, Sayyid Said bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth for Culture (Chairman of the Main Commit-

tee of the 15th Arab Theatre Festival), felicitated the teams that participated in the festival, as well as the winners of the scientific research competition.

Egypt

Ismail Abdullah, Secretary-General of the Arab Theatre Authority (Chairman of the Board of Trustees), announced that the Arab Republic of Egypt will host the 16th edition of the Arab Theatre Festival in January 2026.

The ceremony included a documentary that outlined the overall outcome of the 15th edition of the Arab Theatre Festival, right from the festival's opening event to its week-long performances.

During the finale, a thrilling poem was recited by poet Noura Abdullah Al Badi, followed by a folk arts tableau staged by the Al Mathayel Arts Troupe. >A6

BREAKTHROUGH

Israel-Hamas agree on Gaza ceasefire

TEL AVIV: A breakthrough has been achieved in the Gaza conflict, with Israel and Hamas agreeing to a ceasefire deal, marking a potential turning point in the ongoing war, CNN reported citing sources.

According to sources, Hamas is expected to release 33 Israeli hostages seized during the October 7, 2023, attacks, while Israel will free hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in return.

The agreement would deliver the first reprieve from war for the people of Gaza in more than a year, and only the second since the Israeli bombardment began, as per CNN.

This agreement would bring much-needed relief to the people of Gaza, who have faced dire humanitarian conditions for over a year. Once confirmed, the deal is

expected to allow Palestinian civilians to return to northern Gaza and facilitate a massive influx of humanitarian aid into the strip.

Following this, Senator James E Risch said this during the Marco Rubio hearing, "the committee, I've just been advised that there's been a ceasefire announced in Gaza. Before we all celebrate though obviously, we're all going to want to see how that executes with that."

Notably, Israel began its military operations against Hamas in Gaza after the October 7, 2023, attacks.

Israel's genocide in Gaza has killed at least 46,707 Palestinians and wounded 110,265 since October 7, 2023. At least 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the Hamas-led attacks that day and more than 200 were taken captive, as per Al Jazeera. >A1



Dhuhr.....	12:22pm
Asr.....	3:26pm
Maghrib.....	5:47pm
Isha.....	7:01pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:32am

King of Bahrain visits ROHM



King Hamad toured the ROHM and listened to a briefing about its facilities, the nature of its performances, its seasons and its programme throughout the year

MUSCAT: King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, yesterday visited the Royal Opera House Muscat (ROHM) as part of the programme of his state-visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

King Hamad toured the ROHM and listened to a briefing about its facilities, the nature of its performances, its seasons and its programme throughout the year. He took note of the fact that ROHM boasts the latest equipment used in the field of international musical shows.

During his tour, King Hamad was briefed about the architectural features of ROHM's design, which highlights the Omani architectural heritage, with a blend of architectural cultures representing different continents of the world.

On this occasion, ROHM presented a musical performance staged by the Jazz Band of the Royal Guard of Oman (RGO) and RGO's Second Battalion's bagpipes and drums troupe.



Omani identity

At the end of his visit, King Hamad signed the Visitors Book, expressing his delight at visiting the ROHM, which he described as a true embodiment of Oman's art and culture and a symbol of the advanced Omani identity that is rich in culture and innovation.

King Hamad stressed that culture and arts constitute a bridge that links generations and promotes human values and understanding among people who belong to different cultures.

During his visit to ROHM, King Hamad was accompanied by Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior (Head of the Mission of Honour), members of the Board of Directors of the Royal Opera House Muscat and the official delegation accompanying the King. -ONA



ENHANCE TRADE EXCHANGE



Bahrain King meets members of Oman, Bahrain chambers of commerce



MUSCAT: King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, held a meeting at Al Alam Palace guest house in Muscat on Wednesday with members of Oman and Bahrain chambers of commerce and industry (members of the board of directors of Oman-Bahrain Investment Company).

The meeting, held as part of the King's current state-visit to the Sultanate of Oman, aimed to enhance trade exchange between the two countries.

During the meeting, King Hamad listened to a comprehensive account of Oman-Bahrain Investment Company's plan. He expressed his satisfaction with the steps made to achieve the company's goals, which cover measures to boost bilateral investment by generating opportunities for the two countries' private sector companies.

The meeting touched on the

sectors that the OMR10-million company is authorised to enter in line with the two countries' visions to achieve their common development objectives, notably in the fields of food security and logistics.

The meeting reviewed available opportunities that could be utilized by the private sector to implement investment projects that benefit the peoples of the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior (Head of the Mission of Honour), Sayyid Faisal bin Harib Al Busaidi, Ambassador of Oman to Bahrain, Dr. Juma bin Ahmed Al Ka'abi, Ambassador of Bahrain to Oman, Faisal bin Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) and some officials from both sides. -ONA



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Oman, Bahrain sign 25 MoUs, agreements



The pacts were signed within the context of the state-visit of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Bahrain yesterday signed 25 memoranda of understanding (MoUs), agreements and executive programmes covering cultural, scientific, social, health, media, financial, economic, food security, municipal and meteorology fields.

The pacts were signed within the context of the state-visit of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Sultanate of Oman.

Five MoUs were inked by the two countries' Ministries of Health, Information, Labour and Education, as well as Oman's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources with its counterpart, the Bahraini Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agri-

culture.

Five more MoUs were inked as follows: An MoU in the field of meteorology, signed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Bahrain's Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications.

Two MoUs in the fields of endowments and Zakat (almsgiving), signed by the Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs and the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

An MoU in the field of public administration, signed by the Royal Academy of Management (Oman) and the Institute of Public Administration in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

An MoU in the field of capacity building to combat human trafficking, signed by Oman's "National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking" (NCCHT) and Bahrain's Labour Market Regulatory Authority.

The two countries also signed an MoU in the field of insurance and social protection, inked by Oman's Social Protection Fund and Bahrain's Social Insurance Authority and an MoU in the field of exhibitions and conferences, signed by Oman's Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion and Bahrain's Ministry of Industry and Com-

merce signed 4 memoranda of understanding in the fields of investment promotion, intellectual property, industry, stamping precious metals and examining valuable stones.

In addition, Oman's Tax Authority and Bahrain National Bureau of Revenue signed an agreement on the elimination of double taxation.

The two sides signed 4 more MoUs as follows: An MoU in the field of investment, signed by Oman Investment Authority (OIA) and Bahrain sovereign wealth fund's "Mumtalakat Holding Company".

An MoU in the field of food security, signed by "Nitaj" Company, Sultanate of Oman, and its Bahraini counterpart "Ghithaa".

An MoU in the field of establishing, developing and managing economic zones and industrial zones, signed by Oman's Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) and the Bahraini Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

An MoU in the field of stock exchange between Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) and Bahrain Stock Exchange.

The two countries signed 4 executive programmes as follows: An executive programme in the field of ensuring the quality of school education, signed by the Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education and Bahrain's Education and Training Quality Authority.

An executive programme in the field of museum activities, signed by the National Museum (Oman) and Bahrain National Museum.

An executive programme to carry out joint municipal activities over the years (2025-2026), signed by the Ministry of Interior and Bahrain's Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture.

An executive programme to implement a memorandum of understanding in the fields of electricity and renewable energy, signed by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals and the Ministry of Electricity and Water Affairs in Bahrain.

The memoranda of understanding, agreements and executive programmes were signed on behalf of the Government of the Sultanate of Oman by Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Sultan Salim Al Habsi, Minister of Finance, Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Eng. Salim Nasser Al Aufl, Minister of Energy and Minerals, and Nasser Khamis Al Jashmi, Chairman of the Tax Authority.

The memoranda of understanding, agreements and executive programmes were signed on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain by Sheikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Foreign Minister and Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce. -ONA

Discussion on mandatory insurance for hidden defects

MUSCAT: The Financial Services Authority (FSA) yesterday organised a workshop on "Insurance of Hidden Defects of Installations/Buildings".

The workshop included a presentation on the experience of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in implementing a mandatory insurance system for hidden defects in buildings.

The workshop studied the extent to which the Saudi system could be implemented in the Sultanate of Oman.

It laid emphasis on cooperation among government departments



and private sector companies to provide an appropriate environment for encouraging the adoption of such initiatives that support the real estate sector.

The participants discussed

the advantages and basic measures to insure hidden defects in buildings.

The workshop saw the participation of speakers from the KSA Ministry of Municipalities and

Housing, in addition to representatives of public and private establishments in the Sultanate of Oman.

It is worth noting that hidden defects are defined as construction works or related protective elements that weaken the strength or the stability of a building.

In this sense, the term "hidden defects" refers to errors in design, materials, soil examination or in the construction of a building, on condition that such defects were not discovered on the date a building's certificate of completion is issued. -ONA

FIRST CLASS

HM the Sultan confers Al Numan First Class Order on Jordanian ambassador



MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has conferred Al Nu'man Order (First Class) on Amjad Jamil Al Quhaiwi, former ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Sultanate of Oman in appreciation to his efforts in serving relations between the two countries.

The order was handed over by Sheikh Fahd bin Abdulrahman Al Ojaili, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan during a ceremony held at Oman's Embassy in Amman today.

The ceremony was attended by Majid Al Qatarnah, Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, ambassadors, heads of Arab diplomatic missions and invitees. -ONA

NCSI

3-5 star hotel revenues rise 4.9% until end of November 2024

MUSCAT: The revenues of 3-5 star hotels in the Sultanate of Oman stood at OMR212.372 million until the end of November 2024, up by 4.9% compared to the same period in 2023.

Statistics issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) show that the total number of hotel guests increased by 3.9% to 1,929,485 guests by the end of November 2024, compared to 1,857,729 guests during the corresponding period in 2023.

Meanwhile, hotel occupancy rate registered a growth of 1.5%.

According to the NCSI report, among nationalities, Omanis topped the number of guests in hotels, with their number reaching 739,406 (an increase of 4.9%).

As many as 466,827 were European guests (an increase of 4.7%), and 277,627 were Asian guests (up by 4.8%).

The number of guests from the GCC countries rose by 0.1% to 182,408, while the number of guests from Oceanian countries fell by 30% to 28,038 guests. The number of African guests rose by 6.4% to reach 11,108. -ONA

USES OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

Biotechnology regulatory panel holds first meeting

MUSCAT: The committee tasked with regulating the uses of biotechnology and protecting genetic data in the Sultanate of Oman held its first meeting of the year (2025) on Wednesday.

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Saif Abdullah Al Hadabi, Research and Innovation Undersecretary at the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

The meeting discussed the preparation of guidelines to draft policies for regulating the uses of biotechnology and devising a national strategy for biotechnology in the Sultanate of Oman.

The meeting looked into preparations to organise a session of discussion on the National Biotechnology Strategy. The session is scheduled to be held in conjunction with Muscat Global Knowledge Dialogue summit from 26 to 30 January.

The meeting touched on steps to organise the second workshop to finalise the items needed for devising the National Biotechnology Strategy.

It also discussed the national working teams' participation in drafting the strategy. The working teams were formed from relevant governmental and private establishments. -ONA



NATIONAL STRATEGY: The meeting was chaired by Dr. Saif Abdullah Al Hadabi, Research and Innovation Undersecretary at the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. -ONA

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MUSCAT GOVERNORATE

March to mark HM’s accession to power

Times News Service

MUSCAT: To honour the fifth anniversary of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik’s accession to the power, Muscat Governorate will organise a yacht, boat and jet ski march on Friday, in cooperation with several government and private entities, under the sponsorship of Sayyid Saud bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Governor of Muscat.

This march expresses pride in the achievements accomplished during the reign of His Majesty the Sultan and the progress the Sultanate of Oman has achieved in various economic and social fields.

It provides a unique experience that combines entertainment and celebration of maritime heritage,



and promotes local tourism.

The event will start at 9am from Jumeirah Muscat Bay Resort and will run until 5pm.

The march will include exciting marine displays using water scoot-

ers and flyboards, as well as Omani cultural arts that will create a wonderful heritage spirit.

Participants will also receive a detailed explanation of the march route and accompanying events.

The route includes special stations, such as Marina Bandar Al Rowdha in Muscat, where participants will have the opportunity to enjoy the stunning natural views and take memorial photos.

The march will continue through Muttrah Waterfront, Sultan Qaboos Port and Al Qurum Beach, with visual presentations that highlight Mutrah’s history and great maritime heritage. The march will conclude at Al Mouj Marina Muscat in Seeb, where boats, yachts and jet skis will form

a marvellous maritime scenery that reflects the beauty of Muscat’s coasts and combines it with patriotic passions.

Muscat Governorate invites all citizens and residents to participate in the march by pre-registration through the link on Muscat Governorate’s X and Instagram accounts. It confirms that the invitation is available for everyone to join this great national event and express their loyalty and appreciation for the country’s renaissance.

Muscat Governorate appreciates the high praise of His Majesty for the achievements in various Omani governorates, which reflects His Majesty’s wise vision and keenness to promote the sustainable progress of development.

OVER 20 ARTWORKS

National Museum hosts Madeline Díaz: Nuevos Caminos exhibition



MUSCAT: The National Museum, in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in Muscat, is hosting an art exhibition titled Madeline Díaz: Nuevos Caminos.

The exhibition features over 20 artworks by the Dominican-American artist, depicting evocative landscapes and still life that explore and celebrate her cultural identity through art. The exhibition will run until 29 January 2025.

During the opening ceremony, the U.S. Ambassador to Oman, Ana Escrogima, stated: “This collaboration is more than an exhibition; it is a platform for exchange and self-expression, offering Omani youth the opportunity to interact with themes of identity through nature, which is a key theme in Madeline Díaz’s work.

The artwork of landscapes—from the Grand Canyon in the U.S. to Jebel Shams in Oman—inspire reflection on identity and belonging. Through this exhibition, visitors will explore these themes, encouraging them to consider their own connections to culture and history.”

The artist, Madeline Díaz, also shared her thoughts, stating: “As an artist, my work explores the

complexities of identity, migration, and cultural exchange. My time in Oman allowed me to be connected with the Omani youth, exploring their traditions and exchanging ideas with them on how natural scenes and history shape our identity.

This cultural dialogue reminded me of the deep, reciprocal connections between our worlds—from the Americas to Oman—through trade, food, and shared humanity.”

The core series, Caminos (meaning “ways” or “paths” in Spanish), comprises sixteen landscapes inspired by Díaz’s travels along the Saint James Way (Camino de Santiago) in Spain, a historically and religiously significant pilgrimage route dating back to the Middle Ages.

While traversing these paths, the artist reflects on her personal journey from her native Santiago in the Dominican Republic (an island in the Caribbean) to New York City, and ultimately to Santiago de Compostela in Spain, where the Saint James Way concludes.

Díaz draws parallels between the pilgrimage route and the uni-



versal act of migration, which she experienced as a child.

In the still life series, Postcolonial Bodegón (postcolonial still life), Díaz seeks to reinterpret the classic Spanish still-life genre by infusing it with products from the Americas.

By including purple and red corn, blue and purple potatoes, chocolate and hibiscus flowers, the artist celebrates the beauty, diversity and ubiquity of these products, as well as the rich diversity and contributions of her culture.

Díaz engages in a form of reverse colonization in art, acknowledging the historical flow of products from the Americas to Europe during the colonial era and its lasting impact in everyday life across borders and cultures.

Madeline Díaz was born in the Dominican Republic, raised in New York City, and is currently based in Paris. Through her artwork, she explores themes of identity, belonging, migration, place, and postcolonial legacies using a variety of art genres and mediums—from landscape to still life, and oil pastel to oil paint.

Díaz received a diploma in illustration from the High School

of Fashion Industries in 1998. She holds a BA in Art History from Brown University and an MA in Museum Studies from Columbia University.

She was taught by the Cuban-American artist José Pascual Hijoel and the French artist Patrick Laurin.

Through her work, Díaz seeks to acknowledge the long-lasting impact of the old European art masters on her artistic development, while searching for and creating space for her own voice and complex cultural identity.

In addition to her work as an artist, Díaz has over 20 years of experience designing and leading programmes for museums and cultural institutions in the U.S. and France, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Frick Collection, the Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum, the National Museum of the American Latino, the Grand Palais, and the Maison Européenne de la Photographie.

She frequently teaches museum education at the University of Versailles and travels regularly between France, Spain, and the U.S. -**ONA**

ASMED

Talks on SMEs organised

MUSCAT: The Public Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development (ASMED) yesterday organised a dialogue session on electricity and water services for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

The session reviewed improving the business environment and its attractiveness, in addition to motivating entrepreneurs to present innovative ideas that contribute to the development of these sectors.

The session addressed several topics concerned with developing the sector, most notably the legislation and laws supporting the electricity and water sector, enhancing the efficiency of electricity and water services, tenders and contracts.

-ONA



Ministry of Defence

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

1. The Ministry of Defense invites MOD registered suppliers to participate in The following tender:

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SUPPLY AND PROVISION OF MILITARY ID CARDS AND ACCESSORIES FOR THREE YEARS	01/2025	17/02/2025	24/02/2025	130 OMR
SUPPLY OF RUCKSACK AND ACCESSORIES FOR THREE YEARS	03/2025	17/02/2025	24/02/2025	324 OMR

2. Tenders documents and terms may be obtained on payment from the office of the Secretary of the Tender Committee, gate No. 14 of MAM Camp between 0900 to 1300 hrs. on the working days.

3. Payment of Tender documents to be made by using of any Visa Electron Cards or &” Visa credit” Cards or through Smart Card issued from all the banks are operated in Oman.



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The company invites offers for the following tender:

Sl.	Tender ID	Description	Tender Fee	Deadline for Purchasing of Tenders	Deadline for Submission of Offers
1	01-2025	Sales of Used Vehicles	RO. 52.500	30th January 2025 2359 Hours	05th February 2025 2359 Hours
2	1650000214 -25	Hiring of Masons and Carpenters	RO. 52.500	30th January 2025 2359 Hours	05th February 2025 2359 Hours
3	1650000252 -25	Supply of Kiln Refractory Bricks on CFR basis at Sohar Industrial Port	RO. 105	30th January 2025 2359 Hours	05th February 2025 2359 Hours

Tender documents can be obtained by paying the below amount online to the Company’s account detailed below: Account name: Oman Cement Company SAOG

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The last date for submission of offers is on Tuesday, 2359 hours detailed date on the above table, accompanied by a bid bond issued by any local bank in Oman (equivalent to 1%) of the total tender value. The bid bond must be valid for 120 days from the last date of submission of offers and the ORIGINAL bid bond must be submitted on the tender box at the reception on our Administration Building, Al Mesfah West factory Site, Bausher, Muscat, Oman.

For Tender No. 1 (01/2025) Sale of Used Vehicles the bid bond (as indicated in tender documents in each vehicle Rates Form).

Any tenders received beyond the above closing time and date or not being supported by a tender bond will NOT be considered. This publication is part of the tender documents.

CHANGE OF LOCATION

CHANGE IN BLS COLLECTION CENTERS LOCATIONS WITH EFFECT FROM 19TH JAN’ 2025

Sl. No	Collection Centers	Contact Person	New Centre Location	Telephone No	Mobile No
1	NEW SALALAH	Mr. Sarath.P.V	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Al Salam Street, New Salalah	23288352	91373589
2	SOHAR MAIN	Mr.Biju Cherian	Near Joyalukkas Exchange,Suhaar Souq, Al Hambar Street	26840812	93831046
3	NIZWA	Mr. Santo.P.B	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Madyan Industrial City, Near Shell Petrol Station	22146504	98970964
4	SUR	Mr. Mohammed Rasel	Near Joyalukkas Exchange,Opp. Musab Bin Omeer Mosque, Near Bank Muscat ATM	25535970	93613660
5	IBRI	Mr. Abilash.M.V	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Inside Makkah hypermarket -Ibri	25880621	92115918
6	DUQM	Mr. Najash Najeeb	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Beside Shell Petrol Pump, Main Bus Station - Duqam	22842099	71752895
7	KHASAB	Mr.Shahul Hmeed.N.S	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Commercial Area, Behind Bank Muscat	26832064	92846651
8	FALAJ AL OABAIL (SHINAS)	Mr. Senthil Kumar.M	Near Joyalukkas Exchange,Opp. Downtown Mall, Mashal An Nur Street - Falaj Al Qabail	26949832	92460772
9	BURAIMI	Mr.Shahin Miah	Near Joyalukkas Exchange, Opp Al Maha Marketing Center,Sara Al Khadeem, Near Sanaya	25643160	92206457

HM holds meeting with King of Bahrain at Al Barakah Palace



During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged cordial conversations and reviewed march of the deep-rooted relations between the two countries

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain held a bilateral meeting at Al Barakah Palace on Wednesday.

During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged cordial conversations and reviewed march of the deep-rooted relations and aspects of the joint cooperation between the two countries. They underlined their keenness to push them

towards wider horizons in various spheres in a manner that serves interests of the two peoples.

The meeting was attended by some Royal family members, ministers and senior officials. It was also attended by members of the official delegation accompanying the King.

After that, His Majesty the Sultan hosted a luncheon in honour of the King and the accompanying delegation. -ONA



TWO-DAY STATE VISIT

HM the Sultan leads farewell party for King of Bahrain



MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik led the farewell party at the Royal Airport for King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bahrain, who concluded his two-day state visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

His Majesty the Sultan wished the King safe return home.

Along with His Majesty the Sul-

tan, King Hamad was seen off by HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, Sayyid Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'mani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal Al Busaidi, Minister of Interior (Head of the Mission of

Honour), Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Sayyid Faisal bin Harib Al Busaidi, Ambassador of Oman to Bahrain, Dr. Juma bin Ahmed Al Ka'abi, Ambassador of Bahrain to Oman and members of the mission of honour.

During his visit, the King of Bahrain was accompanied by a high-ranking official delegation. -ONA



MEETING

< FROM A1 Oman and Bahrain leaders also review the GCC march

The two sides also commended the success made by the Omani-Bahraini Joint Committee and its active role in promoting bilateral cooperation and implementing joint projects that serve the interests of the two countries.

They underscored the importance of the committee's continuous efforts to explore new areas of partnership to achieve their common aspirations. These efforts include encouraging economic and investment initiatives between the public and private sectors.

The two monarchs also reviewed the GCC march and the

achievements made at the level of the Gulf joint action.

They also discussed a set of regional and international issues of common concern. In this context, they underlined the importance of settling disputes and differences through peaceful means and the need to advocate dialogue and international cooperation to back efforts aiming to maintain regional and international security and stability. They also stressed the importance of enhancing consultation and intensifying coordination in their stances in a way that serves common interests and

strengthens the pillars of stability, security and prosperity for all peoples of the region and the world at large.

At the end of the visit, His Majesty King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa expressed his utmost thanks to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and his accompanying delegation. On his turn, His Majesty the Sultan expressed his best wishes of good health and well-being to the King. He also wished the Kingdom of Bahrain and its people further progress and prosperity." - ONA



WITH AN INVESTMENT OF OMR90 MILLION

Alahly Sabbour launches the first neighbourhood project in Sultan Haitham City

Muscat: The first neighbourhood, Wadi Zaha, of Alahly Sabbour Development Project in Oman, in Sultan Haitham City, which is the first integrated smart city in Oman, was inaugurated yesterday evening at the Royal Opera House Muscat. The event was held under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Khalfan bin Said bin Mubarak Al Shuaili, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, in the presence of Engineer Ahmed Sabbour, Chairman and Managing Director of Alahly Sabbour Company, along with a number of ministers, ambassadors, senior officials, businessmen and investors.

Strategic Partnership

The ceremony began with a welcoming speech by Engineer Ahmed Sabbour, Chairman and Managing Director of Alahly Sabbour Company, in which he explained that the project is a result of cooperation and strategic partnership with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning in Oman, benefiting from the wise policy pursued by the Sultanate and its distinguished relations with the Arab Republic of Egypt and all countries of the world. “This policy has made Oman an important focal point for global peace and stability and a safe and attractive destination for businessmen and investors thanks to its promising future in this field.” He pointed out that the decision to expand to Oman reflects Alahly Sabbour’s belief in the great value and promising opportunities offered by the Omani real estate market, especially with the continuous development witnessed by this sector. Sultan Haitham City stands out as a strategic location that enables the development of value-added projects for the community and investors.

“It is fortunate that our celebration today of the launch of the first neighbourhood of our project (Wadi Zaha) in Sultan Haitham City coincides with Oman’s celebrations of the anniversary of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik assuming the reins of power. We are pleased to participate in this precious national occasion and celebrate the launch of a project that contributes to enhancing the concept of modern life in line with Oman’s vision and authentic values,” he said.

He pointed out that the design of Wadi Zaha, prepared by SOM, combines a modern character with the ancient Omani identity, while preserving the authentic heritage. “Thus, we seek to provide a qualitative addition that contributes to supporting the development of the real estate market in Oman and raising the standards of innovation and sustainability in it,” he added.

Second largest land area in Sultan Haitham City

Eng. Ahmed Sabbour explained that the project consists of three main neighbourhoods, namely Wadi Zaha, Wadi Tala and Wadi Safa, with a total area of about 100 acres (420,000 square meters). These neighbourhoods have the largest view of the central park. Thus, Al-Ahly Sabbour Company is considered one of the most prominent investment companies that owns the second largest land area in Sultan Haitham City.

He explained that the first neighbourhood, Wadi Zaha, extends over an area of 23 acres with a total construction area of 158,000 square metres. It includes about 760 residential units for a total investment of OMR90 million. The project aims to enhance social development by providing a modern lifestyle and an integrated residential experience that meets the needs of different segments of society with a focus on innovation, quality and harmony with local values.

“Today is a turning point and a special moment for Alahly Sabbour, a memory that we will celebrate every year. When we decided to expand under the name of Alahly Sabbour to a new country outside Egypt, it was necessary to choose a country with a rich heritage and a history full of continuous successes. Today, we are grateful and happy to see this dream come true in a country that shares the same values and principles of security, peace, development and prosperity, which is the Sultanate of Oman,” Eng. Ahmed Sabbour said.



Sultan Haitham City ... an Ideal Destination

“In line with Oman Vision 2040, Sultan Haitham City has been chosen as the destination for our first project in Oman, as it is the first integrated smart city in Oman and has great potential to be a leading urban center in the region. The Company is currently focusing on implementing this vital project with the possibility of future expansion as needed. The Company also aspires to implement other projects in Oman that will have a wide positive impact. We believe that Alahly Sabbour’s project in Sultan Haitham City is not just a new expansion, but a step towards achieving our shared vision with Oman for a more advanced future. Just as the Company contributed to building the future of coming generations in Egypt, it now seeks to transfer this experience to Oman to create a vibrant community that meets the ambitions of today and tomorrow,” Eng. Ahmed Sabbour said.

Local Companies

Eng. Ahmed Sabbour pointed out that a clear plan and strategy have been developed for the project focusing on giving priority to local Omani companies. These companies will play a major and effective role in implementing the project, which will contribute to strengthening its economy and benefiting the local sector. He also stressed that experienced and efficient Omani companies will participate with full commitment to completing the work on time and with the highest standards of accuracy.

Jobs and Omanisation

“There is no doubt that the Company keeps in mind the government’s orientations regarding Omanisation and creating job opportunities for the Omani citizens. We at Alahly Sabbour will assist in this process in various ways. The Company will provide several job opportunities with the start of the

full operation of the project. The Omanisation percentage has been taken into consideration according to the requirements of the Sultanate in this regard,” Eng. Ahmed Sabbour said.

30 Years of Experience

Eng. Ahmed Sabbour said that since its establishment in 1994 in strategic partnership with the National Bank of Egypt, the Company has established itself as one of the pioneers of the real estate development sector in Egypt. “Over the course of 30 years, Alahly Sabbour has created a boom in this sector through a land portfolio of up to 4,000 acres distributed over 65 diverse real estate projects including residential, commercial, touristic, administrative, sports and social clubs projects, in addition to its spread in distinguished locations from East to West Cairo, reaching the Red Sea and the North Coast. Today, more than 40,000 happy families live in the Company’s various projects. Alahly Sabbour has also expanded to include 22 subsidiaries offering a comprehensive range of products and services. The Company has been able to leave a clear mark in the Egyptian market by building communities that meet the needs of all generations. Today, with our expansion in the Sultanate of Oman, we are keen to transfer this deep expertise to the Omani market, and contribute to the development of innovative projects in line with Oman Vision 2040 while maintaining the distinction that our projects have enjoyed in Egypt,” he added.

“I would like to point out that the Omani Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, headed by His Excellency the Minister Dr. Khalfan bin Said bin Mubarak Al-Shuaili, is our strategic partner in this project. The Ministry has made and continues to make great efforts to overcome any obstacles and encouraged us to invest in Oman. I would also like

to thank His Excellency the Minister for his generous patronage of our ceremony. I also extend my thanks to the ministers, ambassadors, all officials and attendees for honoring us. I would also like to thank all those in charge of the ceremony, which came out in an honorable manner and was a good opportunity to communicate with our brothers and sisters in Oman,” Eng. Ahmed Sabbour concluded.

Milestone

After Eng. Ahmed Sabbour finished his speech, Mr. Jamal bin Nasser Al Hadi, Media Advisor to the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, delivered the Ministry’s speech in which he said: “Today, we announce the launch of Wadi Zaha neighborhood in Sultan Haitham City as a milestone on the road to building an urban future that reflects Oman’s aspirations and ambitious vision. This project is not just a real estate investment, but rather an intellectual and strategic step that redefines the standards of urban development and opens new horizons for a sustainable environment and integrated communities. Our cooperation with Alahly Sabbour, which has a pioneering experience spanning more than three decades, is a natural reflection of the integration of visions and the convergence of established expertise and promising opportunities in the Omani real estate market. This project highlights the power of qualitative partnerships that contribute to achieving a sustainable impact that extends to future generations.”

“The close historical relations between Oman and Egypt are characterized by distinguished cooperation that extends over centuries. These ties have contributed to enhancing economic and knowledge cooperation, which enriches this partnership today. Here, ambitious visions and deep experiences meet to build a future that reflects high values



Wadi Zaha is an integrated residential and urban project that reflects the aspirations of the era and will have an effective role in attracting businessmen and investors to make Oman a destination for investment and real estate development.

-Engineer Ahmed Sabbour

Wadi Zaha is not just a launch of a new project, but rather an announcement of a broader vision for Sultan Haitham City as an urban icon that attracts investments and embodies the aspirations of generations.

-Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning:

“The project will provide a home for every generation, where every person will find a place that expresses their lifestyle and reflects their ambitions and aspirations for the future.

-Thomas Beer, Managing Partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM)

and evokes the shared cultural heritage to reach together new horizons of progress and prosperity,” Mr. Jamal Al Hadi added.

Vision and Creativity

“The project is advancing confidently and racing against time, putting people at the heart of planning. It blends urban innovation and economic opportunities to present the Wadi Zaha neighborhood as an inspiring urban environment that shines from the heart of the City. In this project, investment opportunities meet with a vision that reflects brilliance and prosperity, a platform that inspires creativity, embraces ideas, and opens up broad horizons for the local and global market,” Mr. Jamal Al Hadi said.

“This moment is not just the launch of a new project, but rather an announcement of a broader vision for Sultan Haitham City as an urban icon that attracts investments and embodies the aspirations of generations. What we are establishing today is a legacy for the future and a new pillar that reflects our firm commitment to pioneering urban development and creating environments that support sustainability and prosperity. In the Sultanate of Oman, we see this project as the beginning of a path that paves the way for renewed chapters of achieve-

ments, and we value our effective partnerships that contribute to achieving this vision,” he added.

“What we have witnessed since the launch of the Sultan Haitham City project is an accelerated movement that reflects a well-thought-out vision, ideal cooperation and precise implementation. Today, we are completing this momentum by launching the Wadi Zaha neighborhood as a new step that strengthens the path towards qualitative investments and urban leadership that inspires generations,” he concluded.

Then, Mr. Thomas Beer, Managing Partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) began his speech saying: “We share with Alahly Sabbour an ambitious vision to build sustainable and integrated communities that meet the aspirations of future generations. Accordingly, in Wadi Zaha, we are working to achieve this vision by designing an innovative, smart and multi-use project that combines the new trends of modern life with the authentic Omani identity.”

Design and Masterplan

“We have designed the urban planning of Sultan Haitham City as an urban oasis that blends the beauty of nature with modern life. Our design for Wadi Zaha reflects this vision, as the neighborhood represents a community that provides a home for every generation at all stages, where every individual finds something to express their lifestyle and aspirations, to be a source of inspiration for future generations. As architects of this project, SOM has placed sustainability at the heart of the design, prioritizing environmentally friendly architectural practices, the use of renewable energy solutions, and the allocation of large green spaces in line with the goals of Oman Vision 2040 to preserve the environment,” Mr. Thomas Beer said.

Project Location

“The location played a vital role in designing the master plan for the project. The project is located in the heart of Sultan Haitham City, giving it unique advantages, most notably that the three neighborhoods enjoy a wide view of the central park, in addition to the tranquil landscape offered by the Wadi. These views give the project a vibrant spirit that reflects an ideal balance between nature and urban life. The strategic location of the neighborhood enhances the comfort and well-being of residents, making it an ideal place to live,” Mr. Thomas Beer added.

Types of residential units

SOM pointed out that Wadi Zaha neighborhood includes approximately 760 diverse residential units, including small studios, one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom apartments, in addition to duplexes with gardens, duplexes with upper floors and terraces, penthouses, independent villas and townhouses. These options offer a variety of housing solutions that meet the different needs of individuals, allowing everyone to find a place that expresses their lifestyle and aspirations.

Importance of the project

Mr. Thomas Beer said that this project is expected to contribute to providing an innovative and advanced living experience that meets the needs of modern Omani families. It will also be a starting point to encourage major investments and attract businessmen from inside and outside the Sultanate to invest in similar projects. Wadi Zaha neighborhood will not be limited to housing only, as the plan supports the establishment of an integrated community that reflects diversity and communication and keeps pace with the different needs of all individuals from different generations.

Start of work

The Wadi Zaha neighborhood will consist of three phases and the construction process will start in 2025 and end in 2029. It is known that large projects such as this one require a comprehensive preparation period that includes mobilizing the necessary equipment and building materials and hiring specialized workers in addition to many other details that ensure the smooth and efficient running of work.

SPORTS

REVISED GUIDELINES



BCCI tightens protocols, limits family time on team tours

MUMBAI: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is set to enforce stricter regulations for the Indian cricket team, including capping family presence during tours and mandating team travel arrangements to maintain discipline and focus.

Under the revised guidelines, players' immediate families - partners and children - can join them for a maximum of 14 days during tours lasting over 45 days but are barred during the first two weeks. On shorter tours, the allowance is limited to a week.

These protocols, outlined in player contracts, were temporarily eased during the COVID-19 pandemic to prioritise players' mental well-being.

On Saturday, India captain Rohit Sharma, head coach Gautam Gambhir, and chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar met BCCI officials in Mumbai for the first time since the team's tour of Australia. During the meeting, the team leadership was informed about the return to these earlier standards.

The regulations also require all players to travel together on the team bus, reinstating a tradition that had reportedly been neglected by some players recently. While the BCCI will continue covering families' accommodation expenses during their stay, travel costs remain the players' responsibility, provided the visit aligns with the updated rules.

The issue of family presence on tours has long divided sports organizations globally. While teams like the Chennai Super Kings in the IPL have embraced it as a morale booster, others have imposed bans for performance reasons. Brazil's national football team, for instance, enforced a ban on partners during the 2019 Copa América, which they went on to win.

In contrast, Australia's swimmers openly criticised similar restrictions at the 2012 Olympics, citing feelings of isolation and reduced motivation.

For Indian cricket, this topic has often sparked debate. In 2018, then-captain Virat Kohli reportedly sought leniency on family visit restrictions.

Current coach Gautam Gambhir echoed the complexity of the issue, stating in an earlier interview, "Player opinion varies. Some want their families for the entire tour, while others prefer limited time to focus. Whatever the decision, it should serve Indian cricket's best interests."

The reinstated protocols aim to strike a balance, ensuring player focus while addressing logistical and performance-related concerns. - Agencies

Djokovic shatters Federer record in Melbourne win

The 37-year-old Serbian is bidding to become the oldest player in the Open era to win a Grand Slam title

MELBOURNE: Novak Djokovic etched his name into tennis history with a record-breaking victory at the Australian Open, surpassing Roger Federer's mark for the most major singles matches played on Wednesday.

The 37-year-old Serbian triumphed in his 430th Grand Slam singles match, defeating qualifier Jaime Faria 6-1, 6-7 (4-7), 6-3, 6-2, to secure a spot in the tournament's third round.

The win not only gave Djokovic sole ownership of the all-time record for Grand Slam singles matches played, but it also marked another significant milestone in his illustrious career.

He surpassed Federer, who played his last major match at Wimbledon in 2021, to become the player with the most major singles appearances in tennis history.

"I love this sport. I love competition," Djokovic said on the achievement.

"I try to give my best every single time. It's been over 20 years that I've been competing in Grand Slams at the highest level. Whether I win or lose, I will always leave my heart out on the court. I'm just blessed to be making another record."

The victory also made Djokovic the first man over the age of 30 to reach 150 Grand Slam singles wins. As he continues his quest for more titles, the Serb is aiming to add a 25th major to his collection.



tion. If successful in Melbourne, he will surpass Australia's Margaret Court as the all-time leader in Grand Slam singles titles.

Djokovic, the tournament's seventh seed, is now set to face 26th-seed Tomas Machac in the third round, with a potential path to further history ahead.

Meanwhile, the men's draw saw a major upset as sixth-seed Casper

Ruud, widely considered one of the tournament's top contenders, was eliminated in a stunning loss to Czech 19-year-old Jakub Mensik.

The match ended 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4, with Mensik, ranked world No. 48, advancing to the next round.

He became one of two teenagers - along with Joao Fonseca, who stunned ninth-seed Andrey Rublev - to beat top-10 opponents at the same Grand Slam, a feat last achieved by Djokovic and Andy Murray at Wimbledon in 2006.

Draper and Fearnley advance to third round

Britain's Jack Draper dug deep to reach the third round, overcoming a hip injury to beat Australian Thanasi Kokkinakis in a dramatic five-set encounter. Draper, seeded 15th, triumphed 6-7 (3-7), 6-3,

3-6, 7-5, 6-3 after Kokkinakis had served for the match at 5-4 in the fourth set.

Draper broke back decisively and won the decider with a single late break. "I'm really proud of the way I competed, and I eventually came through. I'm very happy about that," Draper said after the match.

In a remarkable story, 23-year-old Jacob Fearnley became the first Briton to reach the third round at this year's Australian Open in his debut overseas Grand Slam.

Fearnley, who turned pro just last year after leaving university, kept his composure to beat France's Arthur Cazaux 3-6, 7-5, 6-2, 6-3, despite the rowdy atmosphere at Melbourne Park. His remarkable rise continued after he stunned home favourite Nick



Kyrgios in the first round. Fearnley's reward is a tough third-round clash with German second seed Alexander Zverev.

Alcaraz pushes towards career Grand Slam

Spanish sensation Carlos Alcaraz continued his bid for a Career Grand Slam with a dominant performance in the second round against Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka.

Alcaraz, aiming to become the youngest player to secure every Grand Slam title at the age of 21, put on a display of powerful tennis, defeating Nishioka 6-0, 6-1, 6-4 in just an hour and 22 minutes.

Alcaraz was nearly flawless in the first set, dropping only four points, and remained in control throughout the match. "I think the less time you spend on the court at

the Grand Slams, especially at the beginning, the better, especially physically," Alcaraz remarked after the match. "I'm feeling great, and I just tried to focus on spending as little time as I could."

Alcaraz, who is unbeaten against left-handed players in Grand Slams, hit 14 aces and didn't face a break point in a flawless serving performance. "I'm really happy with the serve today. This is something that I worked on in the preseason," he said. "In the first round, I struggled a little bit, but yesterday I was more focused on practising the serve, and it worked well today."

With a 2-0 lead in their head-to-head, Alcaraz will next face Portugal's Nuno Borges in the third round as he continues his quest for the elusive Career Grand Slam title. - Agencies

AUSTRALIAN OPEN: WOMEN SINGLES



Shock exit for China's Zheng

MELBOURNE: China's Zheng Qinwen suffered a major upset in the second round of the Australian Open on Wednesday, falling to German veteran Laura Siegemund in the biggest shock of the tournament so far.

The fifth seed, who was a runner-up to Aryna Sabalenka last year, lost 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, marking the highest-ranked player to exit either singles draw at Melbourne Park so far.

Zheng, who has struggled with time violations throughout the match, voiced her frustration after one penalty cost her a first serve.

"Maybe today is not my day," the 22-year-old said. "There's a lot of details in the important points. I didn't make the right choice." She also raised concerns about the visibility of the shot clock, which dictates the 25-second window for serving.

Meanwhile, defending champion Aryna Sabalenka narrowly avoided the same fate, battling back from 5-2 down in the second set to secure a 6-3, 7-5 victory over Spain's Jessica Bouzas Maneiro.

"I want people to know I'm not that crazy off-court. It's only the on-court Aryna," the Belarusian



joked with the crowd, adding, "I'm a nice person off the court. I'm not sure if my team will agree with that... but I promise, I'm nice."

Fellow two-time champion Naomi Osaka also fought her way through, coming from a set down to defeat Karolina Muchova 1-6, 6-1, 6-3.

The win marks Osaka's first Grand Slam third round appearance since returning from maternity leave after giving birth to her daughter in July 2023. "She crushed me at the US Open when I had my best outfit ever. I was so mad," the 27-year-old laughed,

referring to her defeat by Muchova last year. "This was my little revenge."

Osaka's victory sets up a third-round clash with Belinda Bencic, who is also playing her first Grand Slam since giving birth to her daughter in April 2024.

Elsewhere, title contender Coco Gauff eased past Britain's Jodie Burrage, and US Open runner-up Jessica Pegula advanced with a 6-4, 6-2 win over Elise Mertens. Mirra Andreeva was made to dig deep, overcoming Japanese qualifier Moyuka Uchijima 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (10-8). - Agencies

OMAN CRUDE PRICE FALLS
The price of Oman oil has decreased, with prices for delivery by March 2025 reaching \$82.24, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil fell by 1 cent from the price of Tuesday, which was \$82.25. - **ONA**

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER
The MSX index closed at 4,604.92 points, down by 0.13% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.74% at 429.22 points. National Detergent, up 9.86%, was the top gainer while Oman & Emirates Investment, down 4.11%, was the top loser.

Infrastructure project launched at Samail Industrial City

The project comes to complement Madayn's efforts in creating employment opportunities, enhancing competitiveness, attracting local and foreign investments, integrating artificial intelligence technologies, and expanding the production base

MUSCAT: The Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn) celebrated the inauguration of the infrastructure project in Samail Industrial City on Wednesday under the patronage of Sheikh Dr. Ali bin Masoud Al Sunaidy, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (Opaz).

Al Sunaidy emphasised the strategic significance of Samail Industrial City in advancing Oman's industrial sector, and its success in attracting a diverse range of manufacturing industries. He highlighted the project's completion of essential infrastructure works, including roads, lighting, fiber optic network, water network, and other vital services.

He further noted that Samail Industrial City serves as an extension of Al Rusayl Industrial City, which has already attracted significant investment projects. The strategic location of Samail Industrial



City, in proximity to the Sultan Turki bin Said Road, ensures easy access to Muscat and various cities in A'Dakhiliyah and North A'Sharghiyah Governorates.

Speaking at the event, Eng. Yasser bin Ibrahim Al Ajmi, Director General of Samail Industrial City, emphasised the strategic role played by Madayn in advancing Oman's industrial sector, aligning with Oman Vision 2040's objectives, and strengthening private sector contribution in sustainable economic growth.

He noted that the project comes to complement Madayn's efforts in creating employment opportunities, enhancing competitiveness, attracting local and foreign investments, integrating artificial intelligence technologies, and expanding the production base.

The total value of the infrastructure project in Samail Industrial City exceeded OMR35 million. The developed area of the project covers 753 hectares, with Phase 1 spanning 548 hectares and Phase 2 covering 205 hectares.

Al Ajmi also pointed out that Samail Industrial City has been designed according to the highest international standards, incorporating environmental and civil defense requirements, while also addressing the social and recreational needs of employees and local communities. The city offers a comprehensive environment for living and working, featuring diverse facilities and services. Samail Industrial City is divided into several sectors, including technology medical, food, petrochemicals,



steel, aluminium and wood, marble, building materials, and SMEs sector, all complemented by support services.

Additionally, the industrial city includes a facility building with a total area of over 16,000 sqm, providing more than 12,000 sqm of leasable space. This building aims to meet market demands and offer essential facilities for the workforce, and hence enhance the available infrastructure and services.

From his part, Eng. Haitham bin Sulaiman Al Aufi, Head of Projects Implementation Section in Madayn, gave an overview of the project's key infrastructure elements, which include 32.41 km of fiber optic networks for Phase 1 and 8.28 km for Phase 2; 17 km of wadi protection works; water tank in Phase 1 with a capacity of 2,500 cubic meters and a pumping station with a capacity of 481/s; water tank in Phase 2 with a capacity of 2,500 cubic meters and a pumping station with a capacity of 351/s; irrigation tank in Phase 1 with a capacity of 2,500 cubic meters and a pumping station with a capacity of 411/s; and irrigation tank in Phase 2 with a capacity of 800 cubic meters and a pumping station with a capacity of 16.51/s.

Additionally, other works involved in the project include two main gates and three emergency

exits in Phase 1, in addition to 215 CCTV cameras, 1221 lighting poles, 604 fire hydrants, and 82,051 sqm area of public parking for trucks and taxis.

Moreover, Al Aufi pointed out that the infrastructure project features 45,780 km of road networks, 58,040 km of irrigation network, 62,740 km of water network, and 51,620 km of sewage network, five security rooms on an area of 104.74 sqm, and sewage treatment plant with a capacity of 3,500 cubic meters/day.

It is worthwhile to mention that the event also included an exhibition showcasing the products of the investing companies in Samail Industrial City. The exhibition presented a wide range of products from various sectors, reflecting the city's robust commitment to the Sultanate of Oman's industrial development and economic growth.

Strategically located in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate, Samail Industrial City is approximately 60 km southwest of Muscat. The city serves as a thriving hub for industrial activities and a strategic extension of Al Rusayl Industrial City. Its prime location along the Sultan Turki bin Said Road ensures seamless connectivity to Muscat and other key destinations across the Sultanate of Oman, enhancing its appeal as the nearest industrial city to the capital city. - **ONA**

AL BUSTAN PALACE HOTEL HOSTS MEETING



Oman and Bahrain ministers discuss cooperation in trade investment, industry

MUSCAT: Qais Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion held a meeting at Al Bustan Palace Hotel yesterday with Abdullah Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the current "State visit" of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa of the Kingdom of Bah-

rain to the Sultanate of Oman.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed aspects of the joint cooperation in the fields of investment, industry, trade, and intellectual property. They also discussed the importance of cooperation in the mining sector and sharing expertise in exhibition management. The meeting was attended by some officials from both countries. - **ONA**

OIL PRICE

Oil rises trimming losses

LONDON: Oil prices rose yesterday trimming losses from the previous day, as the focus turned back to potential supply disruptions from sanctions on Russian tankers.

Brent crude futures edged up

51 cents, or 0.6 percent, to USD 80.43 a barrel, after dropping 1.4 percent in the previous session.

US West Texas Intermediate crude climbed 64 cents, or 0.8 percent, to USD 78.14 a barrel after a 1.6 percent decline. - **ONA**

PRELIMINARY UNAUDITED RESULTS

Bank Muscat posts net profit of OMR225.58 million for year ended 31 December 2024

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the flagship financial institution in the Sultanate, announced its preliminary unaudited results for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Bank posted a net profit of OMR 225.58 million for the period compared to OMR 212.45 million reported during the same period in 2023, an increase of 6.2 per cent.

The key highlights of the results for the period are as follows:

1) Net Interest Income from Conventional Banking and Net Income from Islamic Financing stood at OMR 397.70 million for the year ended 31 December 2024 compared to OMR 374.82 million for the same period in 2023, an increase of 6.1 per cent.

2) Non-interest income was OMR 145.00 million for the year ended 31 December 2024 as compared to OMR 138.00 million for the same period in 2023, an increase of 5.1 per cent.

3) Operating expenses for the year ended 31 December 2024 was OMR 209.26 million as compared to OMR 196.39 million for the same period in 2023, an increase of 6.6 per cent.

4) Net impairment losses on financial assets for the year ended 31 December 2024 was OMR 64.41 million as against OMR 64.66 million for the same period in 2023.

5) Net Loans and advances including Islamic financing receivables increased by 3.7 per cent to OMR 10,247 million as against OMR 9,877 million as at 31 December 2023.

6) Customer deposits including Islamic Customer deposits increased by 3.6 per cent to RO 9,777 million as against RO 9,438 million



Key highlights of preliminary unaudited results

Particulars (RO millions) For the period ended	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023	Change (%)
Net interest income & Islamic financing income	397.70	374.82	6.1%
Other operating income	145.00	138.00	5.1%
Operating expenses	209.26	196.39	6.6%
Operating profit	333.44	316.43	5.4%
Net profit	225.58	212.45	6.2%
Particulars (RO millions) As at period ended	31 Dec 2024	31 Dec 2023	Change (%)
Total Assets	14,040	13,673	2.7%
Net loans and Islamic financing	10,247	9,877	3.7%
- Conventional loans and advances	8,625	8,350	3.3%
- Islamic financing receivables	1,622	1,527	6.2%
Customer deposits and Islamic deposits	9,777	9,438	3.6%
- Conventional customer deposits	8,193	8,170	0.3%
- Islamic customer deposits	1,584	1,268	24.9%
Total Equity*	2,444	2,355	3.8%

*Total Equity includes Perpetual Tier I capital of RO 505 million (2023: RO 505 million).

as at 31 December 2023.

The full results for the year ended 31 December 2024 along

with the complete set of unaudited financial statements will be released following the approval of

the Board of Directors of the Bank at its meeting scheduled later during January 2025.

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

National Detergent, up 9.86%, was the top gainer while Oman & Emirates Investment, down 4.11%, was the top loser



MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,604.92 points, down by 0.13% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.74% at 429.22 points. National Detergent, up 9.86%, was the top gainer while Oman & Emirates Investment, down 4.11%, was the top loser. Shares of OQEP were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 1039 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of RO 5.71 million, with more than 21.74 million shares changing hands. Out of 62 traded securities, 23 advanced, 18 declined, and 21 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for RO 858K while foreign investors were net sellers for RO 772K, followed by GCC & Arab investors for RO 86K worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 7,909.22 points, down 0.11%. Prices of Taageer Finance, Al Madina Investments, Oman United Insurance, Takaful

Oman, Sohar International Bank were up by 8.49%, 6.67%, 4.78%, 2.22%, 1.44% respectively. Prices of Oman & Emirates Investment, Muscat Finance, Dhofar Insurance, Al Anwar Investment, Bank Nizwa were down by 4.11%, 2.13%, 2.13%, 1.45%, 1.01% respectively.

Industrial Index closed at 5,304.16 points, up 1.81%. Prices of National Detergent, Gulf Mushroom Products, Construction Materials, Voltamp Energy, Jazeera Steel Products were up by 9.86%, 9.78%, 8.89%, 7.65%, 6.38% respectively. Prices of Galfar Engineering, Al Maha Ceramics were down by 1.45%, 0.78% respectively.

Services Index was down by 0.48% before closing at 1,735.10 points. Prices of Oman National Engineering, Abraj Energy were up by 2.52%, 0.38% respectively. Prices of Dhofar Generating, Renaissance Services, Ooredoo, Al Suwadi Power, National Gas were down by 3.03%, 2.44%, 1.75%, 1.41%, 1.30% respectively. — United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

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STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff %
MSX 30 INDEX	4,622.95	4,597.30	4,604.92	4,611.09	-6.17	-0.13
FINANCIAL INDEX	7,930.49	7,909.22	7,909.22	7,917.65	-8.43	-0.11
Industry Index	5,304.16	5,209.78	5,304.16	5,209.78	94.37	1.81
Services Index	1,748.24	1,729.60	1,735.10	1,743.51	-8.41	-0.48
MSX Shariah Index	431.04	427.79	429.22	426.05	3.17	0.74
MSX TR INDEX	6,474.44	6,438.52	6,449.19	6,457.83	-8.64	-0.13
FINANCIAL TR IDX	9,009.85	8,985.69	8,985.69	8,995.27	-9.58	-0.11
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	6,119.74	6,010.85	6,119.74	6,010.85	108.88	1.81
SERVICES TR IDX	2,092.00	2,069.71	2,076.28	2,086.34	-10.06	-0.48
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	1,166.89	0.00	0.00

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
21,747,010	5,707,438	1,039	28,070,521,640	23	18	21	62

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RU)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	P&W VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000000276	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	335,237	103,936	38	0.310	0.317	0.310	0.317	0.298	0.019	6.376	0.317	0.309	0.317	0.100	39,592,653
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	14,889	3,588	6	0.241	0.241	0.241	0.241	0.230	0.011	4.783	0.241	0.241	0.241	0.100	24,100,000
OM0000001152	OMAN NATIONAL ENGINEERING & INVESTMENT	56,313	6,911	8	0.126	0.126	0.122	0.122	0.119	0.003	2.521	0.122	0.122	0.123	0.100	18,300,000
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	3,977,594	550,439	43	0.140	0.141	0.140	0.141	0.139	0.002	1.439	0.141	0.141	0.143	0.100	933,601,724
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	11,200	818	2	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.073	0.072	0.001	1.389	0.073	0.071	0.073	0.100	6,570,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	20,650	1,758	6	0.085	0.086	0.085	0.086	0.085	0.001	1.176	0.086	0.084	0.087	0.100	15,050,000
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	106,193	9,632	9	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.089	0.088	0.001	1.136	0.089	0.089	0.090	0.100	17,800,000
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	19,000	1,853	5	0.097	0.098	0.097	0.098	0.097	0.001	1.031	0.098	0.096	0.106	0.100	21,560,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	15,735	6,288	15	0.400	0.400	0.399	0.399	0.395	0.004	1.013	0.399	0.397	0.399	0.100	132,018,211
OM0000009834	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	454,625	120,465	67	0.265	0.268	0.264	0.265	0.264	0.001	0.379	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.100	204,103,000
OM0000002275	SHELL OMAN MARKETING	862	528	3	0.610	0.615	0.610	0.615	0.615	0.000	0.000	0.615	0.610	0.620	0.100	58,425,000
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	125,300	7,543	11	0.061	0.061	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060	0.059	0.060	0.100	21,367,638
OM0000004735	SEMBOORP SALALAH	173,000	17,500	3	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.098	0.100	0.100	95,457,195
OM0000004925	ALBATNAH POWER	34,369	2,406	6	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	47,242,120
OM0000008072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	2,440,241	330,078	127	0.135	0.137	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.000	0.000	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.100	584,634,229
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	9,280	9,945	6	0.330	0.330	0.328	0.328	0.329	-0.001	-0.609	0.328	0.322	0.329	0.100	218,223,980
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	515,666	131,943	20	0.257	0.258	0.255	0.256	0.258	-0.002	-0.775	0.258	0.258	0.258	0.100	1,921,637,648
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	7,062	6,450	5	0.916	0.916	0.911	0.911	0.920	-0.009	-0.978	0.911	0.911	0.912	0.100	683,250,000
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	97,336	8,614	4	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.071	-0.001	-1,408	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.100	50,008,444
OM0000003896	OQREDOO	115,680	25,877	17	0.226	0.226	0.221	0.224	0.228	-0.004	-1,754	0.224	0.219	0.224	0.100	145,811,508
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	222,239	80,643	12	0.367	0.367	0.360	0.360	0.369	-0.009	-2,439	0.360	0.360	0.362	0.100	85,107,600
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	12,890	912	2	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.070	0.073	-0.003	-4.110	0.070	0.071	0.072	0.100	8,531,250
Total		22	6,650,981	1,415,236	415											
Parallel Market																
OM0000003265	NATIONAL DETERGENT	2,479	1,934	2	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.710	0.070	9,859	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.100	15,600,000
OM0000002287	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	308,845	75,456	56	0.234	0.247	0.231	0.247	0.225	0.022	9,778	0.247	0.230	0.247	0.100	11,304,152
OM0000001368	CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL INDUSTRIES	51,602	2,502	11	0.047	0.049	0.047	0.049	0.045	0.004	8,889	0.049	0.049	0.049	0.100	3,062,500
OM0000003281	TAGEER FINANCE	10,415	1,148	3	0.110	0.116	0.110	0.115	0.106	0.009	8,491	0.109	0.107	0.115	0.100	31,175,407
OM0000003681	VOLTAMP ENERGY	1,777	725	5	0.405	0.436	0.405	0.436	0.405	0.031	7,654	0.436	0.406	0.436	0.100	35,491,599
OM0000001982	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	7,000	336	1	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.045	0.003	6,667	0.048	0.045	0.048	0.100	4,080,000
OM0000002036	MUSCAT THREAD MILLS	20,000	2,290	2	0.149	0.150	0.149	0.150	0.145	0.005	3,448	0.150	0.149	0.150	0.100	4,458,116
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	5,100	390	3	0.078	0.078	0.076	0.078	0.076	0.002	2,632	0.078	0.076	0.078	0.100	39,673,241
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	126,067	5,973	24	0.048	0.048	0.045	0.046	0.045	0.001	2,222	0.046	0.046	0.046	0.100	11,500,000
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	100	9	1	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.092	0.002	2,174	0.094	0.092	0.094	0.100	18,900,000
OM0000009569	JABAL REIF	2,632,300	268,495	1	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.102	0.101	0.001	0,990	0.102	0.000	0.103	0.100	17,745,000
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	80,000	12,190	13	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.152	0.000	0,658	0.153	0.153	0.153	0.100	235,419,730
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	310,000	898,690	1	2.899	2.899	2.899	2.899	2.888	0.011	0,381	2.899	2.830	2.899	0.100	280,040,300
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	7,500	3,500	2	0.440	0.440	0.440	0.440	0.440	0.000	0,000	0.440	0.410	0.439	0.100	69,300,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	7,264	1,315	2	0.181	0.181	0.181	0.181	0.181	0.000	0.000	0.181	0.181	0.190	0.100	425,288,001
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	82,444	5,230	11	0.064	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.065	0.000	0.000	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.100	95,008,095
OM0000008868	THE PEARL REIF	100	15	1	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.124	0.000	0.000	0.124	0.000	0.124	0.100	73,338,173
OM0000009608	OQ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFZ)	3,369,508	384,024	108	0.114	0.114	0.113	0.114	0.114	0.000	0.000	0.114	0.113	0.120	0.040	394,381,957
OM0000009759	OQ EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION	4,273,625	1,466,056	223	0.340	0.345	0.340	0.341	0.343	-0.002	-5,583	0.341	0.341	0.341	0.100	100,027,728,000,000
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	4,000	506	4	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.128	-0.001	-0.781	0.127	0.127	0.127	0.100	6,885,000
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	9,000	1,120	3	0.125	0.125	0.124	0.124	0.125	0.001	-0.800	0.124	0.125	0.127	0.100	9,364,728
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	202,000	19,796	10	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.099	-0.001	-1,010	0.098	0.097	0.104	0.100	219,221,397
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	39,600	3,012	6	0.076	0.078	0.076	0.076	0.077	-0.001	-1,299	0.076	0.076	0.078	0.100	5,460,000
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	371,082	25,317	22	0.069	0.069	0.068	0.068	0.069	0.001	-1,449	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.100	14,428,240
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	935,520	63,759	74	0.069	0.069	0.067	0.068	0.069	0.001	-1,449	0.068	0.068	0.068	0.100	13,803,078
OM0000001096	DHOFAR INSURANCE	2,100	465	2	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.235	-0.005	-2,128	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.100	25,653,063
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	40,000	1,851	3	0.048	0.048	0.046	0.046	0.047	-0.001	-2,128	0.046	0.046	0.051	0.100	14,128,731
OM0000007407	DHOFAR GENERATING	133,200	8,606	7	0.065	0.065	0.064	0.064	0.066	-0.002	-3,030	0.064	0.063	0.065	0.100	14,223,360
Total		28	13,032,738	3,255,236	601											



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A new study looking at some of the denizens of freshwater habitats offers a stark illustration of this biodiversity predicament.

Freshwater environments cover about 1% of Earth's surface while accounting for more than 10% of known species. Like many marine and terrestrial ecosystems, however, they are in distress. A new study looking at some of the denizens of freshwater habitats offers a stark illustration of this biodiversity predicament.

Researchers assessed the status of 23,496 species of freshwater animals in groups including fishes, crustaceans such as crabs, crayfish and shrimp, and insects such as dragonflies and damselflies, finding 24% of them at a high risk of extinction.

"Prevalent threats include pollution, dams and water extraction, agriculture and invasive species, with over-harvesting also driving extinctions," said conservationist Catherine Sayer, lead author of the study published in the journal Nature.

Sayer heads the freshwater biodiversity unit at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the organisation that tracks the status of species globally.

Some of the freshwater species deemed at high risk bear exotic names such as the mini blue bee shrimp of Sulawesi, the Seychelles duskhawker dragonfly, the Atlantic helicopter damselfly of Brazil, the daisy burrowing crayfish of Arkansas and fishes such as the short-nose sucker of Oregon and California, and the humpbacked mahseer of India.

The study filled a gap in data on freshwater biodiversity. The studied species were selected because their diverse positions within food webs present a holistic view of the health of freshwater ecosystems globally.

These species inhabit inland wetlands such as lakes, rivers, swamps, marshes and peatlands — areas that the researchers said have been reduced by more than a third since 1970. Other research has documented the status of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians that share these freshwater ecosystems and often face their own unique threats.

Of the animal groups investigated in the new study, the highest threat levels were documented in the crustaceans (30% threatened) followed by the fishes (26%), and the dragonflies and damselflies (16%).

The researchers identified four places globally with the largest number of threatened freshwater species: Lake Victoria in Africa, Lake Titicaca in South America, and regions in western India and Sri Lanka. - **UNA**

Substitute Jota equalises as Reds draw thriller at Forest

Liverpool striker had been on the pitch for just 22 seconds when he scored to share the spoils

LONDON: Liverpool were forced to dig deep to secure a 1-1 draw against an inspired Nottingham Forest on Tuesday night, keeping their six-point lead intact at the top of the Premier League table.

The match at The City Ground was a showcase of grit and drama as Forest maintained their remarkable form against the league leaders.

The hosts, aiming for a seventh consecutive league victory for the first time in over a century, stunned Liverpool early. Chris Wood converted Anthony Elanga's incisive pass in the 8th minute with a composed finish, marking his 13th league goal of the campaign.

Forest's disciplined defensive setup under head coach Nuno Espirito Santo frustrated Liverpool



for most of the first half. Murillo and Nikola Milenkovic stood firm at the heart of Forest's defense, with goalkeeper Matz Sels delivering a standout performance. Sels thwarted Liverpool repeatedly, including denying a flurry of chances in the dying minutes.

It took a tactical switch from Liverpool boss Arne Slot to spark his side into life. Substitutes Kostas Tsimikas and Diogo Jota made an immediate impact, with Jota

heading in Tsimikas's corner just 22 seconds after coming on in the 66th minute. The equaliser energised Liverpool, who dominated the second half but could not find the winner.

Jota nearly turned the tide entirely, testing Sels twice with powerful efforts, while Mo Salah had a goal-bound shot blocked on the line in the frenetic final moments. Despite Liverpool's resurgence, Forest held firm, buoyed by a rau-

cous home crowd that celebrated the team's effort at full time.

Forest's manager, Nuno, may lament the lapse in concentration that allowed Liverpool to equalise, but he will take pride in his team's performance. Their defensive discipline, epitomized by Murillo's commanding display, underlined why Forest are this season's surprise contenders.

For Liverpool, the draw extended a challenging spell, following



a stalemate against Manchester United and a Carabao Cup semi-final loss to Tottenham. The Reds were far from their best in the first half, appearing sluggish and disjointed. Slot's visible frustration from the touchline underscored their struggles.

However, Liverpool's second-half response showcased their resilience, even if their clinical edge was lacking. While their dominance after the break hinted at

their title-winning potential, the missed opportunities will leave fans and players rueing what could have been.

Forest remain in second place, proving they are not just challengers but a force capable of sustaining their position near the summit. For Liverpool, the result serves as a reminder of the intense competition at the top and the need to rediscover their sharpness to maintain their lead. - Agencies

EXCITING CONTEST

Brentford fight back from two down to draw with City

LONDON: Manchester City's aspirations of clinching a fifth consecutive Premier League title were dealt another setback as Brentford mounted a stunning late comeback to draw 2-2 in a thrilling contest on Tuesday.

City appeared to have sealed three points after Phil Foden's brace gave them a comfortable lead. However, Brentford had other plans, delivering a breathtaking finish that left Pep Guardiola's side rueing missed opportunities.

Yoane Wissa reignited the home side's hopes in the 78th minute, firing home from close range to make it 2-1. The drama peaked deep into stoppage time when captain Christian Norgaard's towering header in the 92nd minute sent the Gtech Community Stadium into raptures.

The Bees nearly snatched all three points moments later, but Nathan Ake's last-ditch clearance off the line denied Bryan Mbeu-



mo's effort in the dying seconds.

Guardiola's side had earlier taken control in the 66th minute when Foden expertly volleyed home Kevin De Bruyne's pinpoint cross. The England midfielder doubled his tally 12 minutes later, capitalising on Mark Flekken's save from Savinho's strike.

Brentford's resilience shone through in the closing stages. Wissa's 37th Premier League goal

made him the club's all-time leading scorer in the top flight, surpassing Ivan Toney.

Norgaard's late equaliser cemented a performance that Brentford manager Thomas Frank lauded as "toe-to-toe with one of the best teams in the world."

The result leaves City in sixth place, 12 points adrift of league leaders Liverpool. Brentford's win sees them climb to 10th. - Agencies

ITALIAN SERIE A

Juventus stay unbeaten with record draw



TURIN: Juventus maintained their unbeaten start to the Serie A season but were held to a record-equalling 13th 1-1 draw in their first 20 games after a stalemate against Atalanta on Tuesday.

Pierre Kalulu's precise strike from a tight angle gave Juventus an early lead. However, Atalanta's Mateo Retegui, returning from injury, responded with a diving header for his 13th goal of the season, securing a hard-earned point for his side.

Juventus, now the first team to record 13 draws in their opening 20 Serie A matches since Inter Milan's 2004-05 campaign (W6 D14 L0), are fifth in the table, 13 points adrift of Napoli. Mantova's record of 22 draws in the 1966-67 season remains the highest in Serie A history.

Elsewhere, AC Milan climbed to seventh after rallying to a 2-1 win over Como as Theo Hernandez and Rafael Leao overturned an early opener from Assane Diao.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Holstein Kiel shock Dortmund

KIEL: Holstein Kiel electrified their fans and bolstered their survival hopes with a stunning 4-2 victory over Borussia Dortmund at Holstein-Stadion on Tuesday.

The newly promoted side delivered a dazzling performance, including three first-half goals, in what is arguably their most remarkable Bundesliga win to date.

Shuto Machino opened the scoring with a sensational strike into the top corner after 27 minutes. Phil Harres doubled the lead soon after, heading in a precise cross from Lasse Rosenboom, sending the home crowd into raptures. Just before halftime, Harres turned provider, setting up Alexander Bernhardsson to slot in Kiel's third from close range.



Despite Dortmund's late resurgence, with substitute Giovanni Reyna firing from the edge of the box and Jamie Gittens curling a spectacular effort into the top corner, Kiel held firm. A dramatic finale saw goalkeeper Gregor Kobel venture upfield for a corner deep into stoppage time, but Fiete

Arp capitalised on the empty net, racing from inside his own half to secure Kiel's fourth goal and seal the historic win.

In other action, Bayer Leverkusen narrowed the gap on league leaders Bayern Munich to just one point, defeating Mainz 1-0. - Agencies

BRAZILIAN STRIKER

Arsenal's Jesus to undergo ACL surgery

LONDON: Arsenal forward Gabriel Jesus is set to undergo surgery on his left knee after sustaining an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury.

The 27-year-old Brazilian was stretchered off during Sunday's FA Cup third-round defeat to Manchester United at Emirates Stadium. Jesus, who has featured in 27 matches across all competitions this season, scored seven



goals before the setback. "Gabriel Jesus has undergone extensive assessments, scans, and

specialist reviews, which have confirmed an ACL injury in his left knee," Arsenal stated. "Gabby will undergo surgery in the coming days and will soon begin his recovery and rehabilitation programme."

Since joining Arsenal from Manchester City in July 2022 for £45mn, Jesus has been instrumental in the Gunners' campaign. Arsenal currently sit third in the Premier League. - Agencies

DEFEAT FULHAM



West Ham post first victory under Potter

LONDON: Graham Potter secured his first win as West Ham head coach with a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Fulham in the Premier League on Tuesday.

Fulham started strongly, with Harry Wilson hitting the crossbar, but West Ham turned the tide in a crucial three-minute spell. Carlos Soler opened the scoring, curling home after a defensive error, and Tomas Soucek added a second moments later with a deft flick from Aaron Wan-Bissaka's cutback.

Fulham responded with Raul Jimenez striking the bar and Alex Iwobi curling in a cross-turned-shot that troubled Lukasz Fabianski. However, West Ham restored their two-goal cushion when Lucas Paqueta capitalised on a mistake by goalkeeper Bernd Leno, forced by Danny Ings. Iwobi's second goal set up a

tense finale as his drifting cross found the net. Fulham nearly leveled in stoppage time, but Adama Traore missed a clear chance from five yards.

"The foundation of togetherness is crucial," Potter told BBC Sport. "We weren't perfect, but the players' application and fight were fantastic, especially given the tough week and missing players."

The win lifts West Ham to 12th in the table, 10 points clear of the drop zone, while Fulham stay ninth. Despite the victory, West Ham's defensive frailties remain a concern, with two soft goals conceded. Fulham, unbeaten in their previous eight league games, will rue missed opportunities and costly errors, including Traore's late miss. Manager Marco Silva may write this off as a rare bad night. - Agencies

Israel kills 62 in Gaza in a day despite reports of ceasefire deal progress

According to media report, mediators, including US President Joe Biden and Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al Sisi, issued a joint call on Israel and Hamas to conclude the deal

GAZA: Israeli forces have intensified their attacks on Gaza, targeting a school-turned-shelter and several homes, resulting in at least 62 deaths in the past 24 hours, according to media report on Wednesday.

This escalation comes despite reports of a potential ceasefire agreement being imminent.

According to Al Jazeera, mediators, including US President



Joe Biden and Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al Sisi, issued a joint call on Israel and Hamas to conclude the deal.

However, the situation remains volatile, with thousands of Israelis rallying in Tel Aviv calling for a

deal that would secure the release of captives held in Gaza, while hundreds of others marched in Jerusalem, demanding a continuation of the war.

Meanwhile, Hamas is expected to release 33 hostages in the first

phase of the ceasefire-hostage agreement being negotiated in Doha in relation to the situation in Gaza, CNN reported on Tuesday, citing two Israeli officials.

According to CNN, Israel believes most of the 33 hostages are

alive, although some deceased hostages may also be included in the initial release.

Hamas and its allies still hold 94 hostages, including at least 34 who are believed to be dead, following the October 7, 2023, attacks.

The parties appear close to finalising the agreement.

Philadelphi Corridor

According to CNN, the latest proposals include Israeli forces maintaining a presence along the Philadelphi Corridor on the Egypt-Gaza border during the first phase and negotiations over the size of a buffer zone inside Gaza have also been a point of contention. While Hamas wants a zone of 300-500 metres from the border, Israel is seeking a 2,000-meter zone.

The plan also includes allowing residents of northern Gaza to return but with unspecified security measures in place and Palestinian prisoners linked to the killing of Israelis would not be released into the West Bank but instead to Gaza or other countries, CNN reported, citing the Israeli official.

Notably, Israel began its military operations against Hamas in Gaza after the October 7, 2023, attacks.

According to the Health Ministry in Gaza, Israel's genocide in Gaza has killed at least 46,707 Palestinians and wounded 110,265 since October 7, 2023.

At least 1,139 people were killed in Israel during the Hamas-led attacks that day and more than 200 were taken captive, as per Al Jazeera. — Agencies

POLITICAL CRISIS

South Korea's President arrested after standoff

SEOUL: South Korea's impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol was arrested on Wednesday over insurrection accusations related to his December 3 martial law declaration, investigators said.

The Asian country's anti-corruption agency confirmed Yoon had been detained hours after hundreds of investigators and police officers arrived at his presidential compound to apprehend him.

Later on Wednesday, investigators said that the former president would be held in a solitary cell for questioning. However, the cell had been made more comfortable, including a rest area, for Yoon's arrival.

South Korea entered its worst political crisis in decades after Yoon sent soldiers to storm the parliament following his declaration of martial law.



Investigation Office for High-ranking Officials (CIO).

However, it appeared that Yoon was not forthcoming following his arrest. A CIO official told reporters that the former president "is exercising his right to remain silent" while in their custody.

Wednesday's arrest makes Yoon the first incumbent president in the country's history to be taken into custody. He could face life in jail or even the death penalty if found guilty of insurrection.

Yoon says rule of law 'has collapsed'

In a video message recorded before he was escorted to the headquarters of the anti-corruption agency, Yoon lamented the "rule of law has completely collapsed in this country." — DW

What did Yoon say after his arrest?

A former prosecutor who led the conservative People Power Party to election victory in 2022, Yoon said he relented to avoid "bloodshed."

"When I saw them break into the security area using firefighting equipment today, I decided to respond to the CIO's investigation, despite it being an illegal investigation, to prevent unsavory bloodshed," Yoon said in a statement, referring to the Corruption

WEEK-LONG OUTBREAK

Los Angeles faces extreme fire danger as high winds forecast

LOS ANGELES: Winds that have fanned wildfires in the US city of Los Angeles are again expected to kick up in the early hours of on Wednesday - after a 25th death from the huge, week-long outbreak was confirmed.

Forecasters have again identified an area of "extreme fire danger", emphasising the risk level in a region to the north-west of the city centre, BBC news reported.

The anticipated increase in wind speeds threatens to further fan the remaining four blazes, which firefighters have made further progress in tackling during a few days of calmer conditions.

There are hopes of another drop-in wind speeds after today, but officials have highlighted the need for rain that would help fire crews in their battle.

The 25th death was confirmed by the LA County Medical Examiner's Office. Thirteen other people remain missing.

Most of the victims have died in the Eaton Fire, which has burned more than 14,000 acres to the city's north, but has now been 35% contained by firefighters.

Further west, the larger Palisades Fire has torched more than 23,000 acres, and is now at 18% containment. Two smaller fires also continue to burn.

Tens of thousands of people are



therefore still under evacuation orders - where night-time curfews also apply - and thousands of homes have been destroyed in one of the costliest natural disasters in American history.

Biden says recovery will cost tens of billions of dollars

President Joe Biden said the federal government is covering most costs associated with the wildfire devastation for the next 180 days.

But Biden added that rebuilding the area and getting the city back will take "tens of billions of dollars" so Congress needs to "step up." Biden also thanked firefighters and first responders, saying "You're the angels."

Vice President Kamala Har-

ris, a California native who has a home in Los Angeles, called what has happened "truly heartbreaking."

State pre-positioning firefighting crews

US officials said they were confident that they would be ready to deal with the new round of winds.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass said, "I believe the city is prepared," when asked whether hydrants could run out of water again, as they did last week when similarly powerful winds ripped through the city.

California has set up a mobilization area to stage resources for a response to any new fires.

Los Angeles County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone said additional

firefighting aircraft are available, but they could be grounded if the winds become too strong.

He stressed that residents must be prepared to evacuate if instructed to do so.

Officials say thousands of firefighters are working to contain the wildfires. However, with more strong winds expected to return, the threat of more destruction looms.

Extent of destruction

At least 25 people have died in the flames. The death toll is expected to rise as officials search through the rubble.

Officials said at least 12,000 structures throughout the Los Angeles area have been damaged or destroyed. — Agencies

MUMBAI DOCKYARD

Indian Navy commissions three warships to the nation

MUMBAI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated three frontline naval ships, INS Surat, INS Nilgiri and INS Vaghsheer to the nation, during their commissioning at the Naval dockyard in Mumbai on Wednesday.

"It is for the first time that the tri-commissioning of a destroyer, frigate and submarine was being done," highlighted the Prime Minister.

According to the Ministry of Defence, INS Surat is a destroyer, INS Nilgiri a frigate and INS Vaghsheer a submarine.

"This historic tri-commissioning reflected India's rich maritime legacy and commitment to self-reliant defence under Aatmanirbhar Bharat. These vessels, built indigenously, enhance the Indian Navy's operational capabilities and strengthen India's role in the Indian Ocean Region," the ministry's social media handle said.

Emphasising the significant role of maritime nations like In-

dia in shaping global security, economics, and geopolitical dynamics, the Prime Minister highlighted the importance of protecting territorial waters, ensuring freedom of navigation, and securing trade supply lines and sea routes for economic progress and energy security. He also stressed on the need to safeguard the region from terrorism, arms, and drug trafficking.

On the occasion of Army Day

On the occasion of Army Day commemorated on Wednesday, PM Modi also saluted every brave warrior who would sacrifice his life for the safety and security of the nation.

The PM further highlighted the connection of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj giving a 'new strength and vision' to the Navy in India during his rule.

Prime Minister also emphasised that was a matter of pride that all the three frontline platforms were made in India. He

congratulated the Indian Navy, all the stakeholders involved in the construction work and the citizens of India for the achievement.

"Today's programme links our glorious heritage with our future aspirations," exclaimed Modi.

An official statement released by the Ministry of Defence added that the PM mentioned India's rich history related to long sea voyages, commerce, naval defence and ship industry. Taking cue from this rich history, PM Modi remarked that today's India is emerging as a major maritime power in the world.

According to the statement, INS Nilgiri is dedicated to the maritime prowess of the Chola dynasty, and the Surat warship, reminiscent of the era when Gujarat's ports connected India to West Asia.

The PM remarked how Vaghsheer submarine is aimed at enhancing both India's security and progress. — ANI

ANNUAL GLOBAL RISK SURVEY

Wars top global concerns ahead of World Economic Forum in Davos

DAVOS: Armed conflict and war are the biggest threats to global economies in 2025, according to an influential report released ahead of next week's annual gathering of government and business leaders in Davos.

The World Economic Forum (WEF)'s annual global risk survey, which polled over 900 experts, policymakers and industry leaders, showed that 52% of respondents anticipate an "unsettled" global outlook over the next two years.

Conflict, including the threat of wars and terrorism, was named as the top immediate risk by almost one in four surveyed, reflecting heightened geopolitical tensions.

"Many respondents expect a stormy or turbulent outlook for the next two years," said Mirek Dusek, managing director of the WEF, describing a "sense of uncertainty" around the future.

"We can assume this is also connected to the fact we live in a very complex geopolitical environment — we unfortunately have a record



number of conflicts around the world."

Conflict, climate change on high on list of worries

Syria, the "terrible humanitarian situation in Gaza" and the potential escalation of the conflict in the Middle East will be a focus at the gathering, WEF President and CEO Borge Brende said, even as reports emerged on Wednes-

day of ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas approaching a conclusion.

Global risk is defined by the survey as "a condition that would negatively affect a significant proportion of global GDP, population or natural resources."

Last year's survey found that extreme weather posed the most severe risk to economic growth, and climate change does remain the biggest concern over the long term.

Global temperatures exceeded 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above the pre-industrial era for the first time last year, and the world is closer than ever to breaching pledges made under the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

Misinformation and disinformation were also highlighted as a major short-term risk given the rapid growth of artificial intelligence, while the report also identified concerns over shifting trade policies ahead of Donald Trump's return to the White House and the threat of potential tariffs. — DW

ROUND-UP

BankDhofar named Oman’s Best Trade Finance Provider 2025

This milestone reflects BankDhofar’s commitment to advancing the trade finance landscape in Oman by continually enhancing its offerings to meet the evolving needs of businesses

MUSCAT: BankDhofar announced its recognition as “Oman’s Best Trade Finance Provider 2025” by Global Finance, a prestigious accolade that underscores the Bank’s unwavering dedication to delivering innovative, customer-focused digital trade finance solutions.

This milestone reflects BankDhofar’s commitment to advancing the trade finance landscape in the Sultanate by continually enhanc-



ing its offerings to meet the evolving needs of businesses.

This esteemed award, conferred annually by Global Banking and Finance Review, a highly regarded UK-based publication, celebrates institutions that redefine industry excellence. The awards spotlight financial organizations that push boundaries, drive innovation, and shape the future of global banking and finance.

As Oman’s foremost provider of trade finance solutions, BankDhofar offers a comprehensive suite of services tailored to the unique requirements of its diverse client base. These include supply chain finance, open account trade solutions, standby Letters of Credit

BankDhofar’s robust global network of top-tier correspondent banks supports its ability to facilitate seamless cross-border transactions. The Bank’s trade risk management team further strengthens its offerings by delivering expert insights and strategies to mitigate risks related to countries, counterparties, and exchange rates. This holistic approach enables Omani businesses to navigate the complexities of international trade with confidence.

Commenting on the accolade, Mallikarjuna Korisepati, Chief Wholesale Banking Officer at BankDhofar, stated: “This recognition underscores our relentless focus on serving the needs of Oman’s financial and business communities. By leveraging our deep expertise in structuring financing solutions and providing innovative investment products, BankDhofar continues to empower companies and drive economic growth across the Sultanate.”

Further solidifying its leadership, BankDhofar was recently named the “Best Bank for Corporates in Oman” by Euromoney and “Oman’s Best Trade Finance Bank” 2024 by Global Trade Review, a prominent UK-based publication and events company specializing in trade and export finance. This honor highlights BankDhofar’s

commitment to delivering forward-thinking financial solutions that foster business success and support the Sultanate’s economic aspirations.

BankDhofar’s extensive portfolio includes lending and working capital solutions, import and export trade finance products, and transaction banking services that streamline operations through faster collections and automated reconciliation. By prioritizing innovation and customer-centricity, the Bank ensures its clients remain competitive in a dynamic business environment.

With a nationwide network comprising 131 branches and over 360 ATMs, CDMs, and FFM’s, BankDhofar provides unparalleled service accessibility. Guided by its strategic vision and adherence to international best practices, the Bank continues to champion community development and contribute to Oman’s national economic growth. BankDhofar’s recognition as a leader in trade finance not only celebrates its achievements but also reinforces its role as a trusted financial partner for businesses across Oman.

With its forward-looking approach and dedication to excellence, BankDhofar is poised to continue shaping the future of trade finance in the region.

PREMIUM HYGIENE PRODUCTS

Empowering women through Admiria: A dialogue on hygiene and wellness

MUSCAT: Vatan Zarin SPC hosted an inspiring event yesterday to introduce its flagship product, Admiria, a revolutionary sanitary napkin developed with the health and comfort of women in mind.

The event, hosted at the Sheraton Hotel, highlighted the company’s presence in the Middle East and its rapid expansion programme with the introduction of Admiria in Oman. It is well known that Vatan Zarin SPC continues to bring cutting-edge solutions to improve the lives of women in the Middle East.

“Admiria is more than just a product; it’s a commitment to women’s health,” said Mohammed Vatanoust, the CEO of Vatan Zarin SPC, during his speech at the event. “At Vatan Zarin, we believe that every woman deserves access to premium hygiene products that prioritise both comfort and protection. Our goal is to ensure that women feel confident, cared for, and healthy during their menstrual cycles.”

Other prominent speakers in the event included Dr Vandana Pandit, and Dr Hanan Salah.

Launched in 2023, Admiria represents Vatan Zarin’s first entry into the GCC market, bringing over 40 years of expertise in feminine care. The brand is designed with advanced technology and premium raw materials, ensuring products that prioritize safety, health, and sustainability.

The event featured educational sessions on menstrual hygiene and product innovations, emphasizing the significance of using the right products for women’s health, something that should never be compromised. Attendees had the opportunity to engage with experts, learn about the latest in hygiene products, and experience Admiria firsthand.

Vatan Zarin’s dedication to



“Admiria is more than just a product; it’s a commitment to women’s health. At Vatan Zarin, we believe that every woman deserves access to premium hygiene products that prioritise both comfort and protection. Our goal is to ensure that women feel confident, cared for, and healthy during their menstrual cycles

Mohammed Vatanoust
CEO of Vatan Zarin SPC

women’s health is at the core of its mission. With Vatanoust’s visionary leadership, the company continues to focus on developing and distributing hygienic products that meet the highest standards of quality and safety, empowering women to live their lives to the fullest without compromising their health and wellness.

Vatan Zarin SPC is a leading company in the Middle East committed to developing innovative hygiene products that prioritise the health and well-being of women. Through its flagship product Admiria, Vatan Zarin aims to offer a reliable, comfortable, and safe solution for women during their menstrual cycles.

ICONIC SUV

All-New Patrol marks a bold design evolution for Nissan SUV line up in Middle East

MUSCAT: Unveiling a bold new chapter for the brand in the Middle East, the recently launched all-new Nissan Patrol has solidified its position as a design benchmark for the region and beyond. As the first of five all-new SUVs to be introduced in the region by Fiscal Year 2026 under The Arc, Nissan’s global business plan, the Patrol exemplifies Nissan’s bold approach to design innovation, seamlessly blending its legendary legacy of over 70 years with modern sophistication.

This exciting launch also coincided with the opening of Al Hashar Automotive’s newest Nissan showroom in Al Azaiba, Al Maaridh Street, on 9 December 2024, further strengthening Nissan’s presence in Oman. Its strategic location in the heart of Muscat’s bustling automotive hub offers customers a state-of-the-art facility where they can experience the latest Nissan vehicles, including the all-new Patrol, firsthand.

Moreover, the new showroom serves to reinforce Al Hashar Automotive’s, the authorized official distributor of Nissan and INFINITI vehicles in Oman, commitment to providing exceptional access to Nissan’s latest innovations and bringing Nissan’s flagship models to the Sultanate, of which the unveiling of the all-new Patrol is the only very first of many to come.

More than an evolution, the all-new Patrol introduces a new era of SUV design for Nissan, with a distinctive silhouette that balances rugged capability with premium refinement. Bringing together timeless heritage and cutting-edge aesthetics, the all-new Patrol embodies the perfect balance of Nissan’s global design philosophy of “Bold Presence” and “Solid Dignity.”

Inspired by extensive research



across key global regions, including the Middle East, Nissan’s designers created the all-new Patrol to express a dynamic duality. With bold, sculpted lines and balanced proportions, the Patrol exudes a powerful stance while refined details elevate its premium appeal.

Thierry Sabbagh, Divisional Vice President, President - Middle East, KSA, CIS - Nissan, INFINITI, commented: “The all-new Nissan Patrol is a bold statement of Nissan’s refreshed design language and an embodiment of our vision for SUVs in the Middle East. For generations, the Patrol has been an integral part of the region; and with this latest model, we’ve drawn inspiration from its iconic design to create a vehicle that upholds its legendary status. A pioneer of Nissan design language, the all-new Patrol reflects our unwavering commitment to meeting the needs of our customers while setting a new standard for premium SUV.”

Upfront, the Patrol proudly displays its “Bold Presence” design philosophy, now enhanced by a wider, more pronounced V-motion grille that pays homage to the second-generation Patrol with its integrated horizontal bar. This commanding feature is paired with sharply sculpted lines and modern lighting elements, including the distinctive new “double-C” lamp design, which together forge a futuristic yet unmistakably Patrol exterior. The full-width rear light bar further accentuates this evolution, maintaining the vehicle’s sense of power and prestige.

The side profile of the Patrol is marked by a gently sloping shoulder line that stretches from front to rear, projecting a blend of prestige and agility. This design is accentuated by a rising window line between the C- and D-Pillars, with blacked-out pillars that create a floating roof effect. The iconic Patrol emblem adorns the D-Pillar, enhancing the vehicle’s identity. Stylish 22-inch alloy wheels underline the SUV’s bold stance, while sleek LED accents modernize the overall design, achieving the perfect balance of aesthetics and functionality.

Inside, the Patrol’s premium cabin offers a glimpse into Nissan’s commitment to “Solid Dignity”. Emphasizing craftsmanship and user-centric innovation, twin displays dominate the console, while soft materials and carefully integrated components maintain an elegant, clean design. In keeping with the Japanese concept of Ma (Mastery of Space), each seating row is crafted with equal attention to detail.

Now available in Oman through Al Hashar Automotive, the all-new Patrol has already begun to captivate the local market.

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