



Dhuhr.....	12:26pm
Asr.....	3:41pm
Maghrib.....	6:06pm
Isha.....	7:18pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	5:24am

Tour of Oman contest heats up as final stage draws close

The race route saw action from the start until the finish, with a 119.5km dominated by the Wolfpack's collective strength

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Fausto Masnada (Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl Team) took the solo win and the red leader's jersey after a thrilling stage from Al Sifah to Muscat Royal Opera on Sunday.

The rolling route saw action from the start until the finish, with a 119.5km dominated by the Wolfpack's collective strength.

Masnada's partner Mauro Schmid opened things up early in the stage and eventually dominated the sprint in the 7-man group that finished 1'07" behind the Italian climber, including the former leader of the race Anthon Charmig (Uno-X Pro Cycling Team).

Masnada is the fourth wearer of the red jersey of the Tour of Oman 2022 ahead of the ascent of Jabal Al Akhdhar (Green Mountain) on Monday.

17 international teams are participating in the Tour of Oman. The winners so far are Anthon Charmig of Uno-X team in the third stage, Mark Cavendish of the Quick Step-Alpha Vinyl team in the second stage and the Colombian Fernando Gaviria of the UAE Team Emirates in the first stage.

On Monday, the fifth stage (150.5 km) will kick off from the Wilayat of Samail to the endpoint in Al Jabal Al Akhdar or (The Green Mountain). The sixth and last stage of the Tour of Oman will start



on Tuesday, 15 February 2022 for a distance of 135.5 km from Al Mouj Muscat to the corniche of Mattrah.

Accordingly, the entire length of the 11th edition of The Tour of Oman is 891 km, encompassing a diverse range of picturesque terrains and marvelous natural sceneries.

Stage Classification

1. Fausto Masnada (Quick - Step Alpha Vinyl Team) 03h01'53"
 2. Mauro Schmid (Quick - Step Alpha Vinyl Team) +01'07"
 3. Kévin Vauquelin (Team Arkea - Samsic) +01'07"
- #### General Classification
4. Fausto Masnada (Quick - Step Alpha Vinyl Team) 14h49'00"
 5. Anthon Charmig (Uno - X Pro Cycling Team) +55"
 6. Jan Hirt (Intermarché - Wanty - Gobert - Matériaux) +58"



Ministry launches mobile vaccination service



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Health launched mobile vaccination service in the Muscat Governorate on Sunday which will continue till Thursday, February 24, 2022.

Mobile bus initiative

"The Directorate General of Health Services in the Governorate of Muscat would like to announce the availability of the vaccination against COVID-19 service through the mobile bus initiative, in cooperation with Al Raffah Hospital for a period of two weeks, starting from February 13 till February 24, 2022 at following sites:

- 1-Beside the Mall of Muscat in the Wilayat of Seeb on February 13 -14, 2022 from 4pm till 8pm.
- 2- Beside the Al Makan Cafe in the Wilayat of Seeb on February 15-16, 2022 from 4pm till 8pm.
- 3-Ministries Street in the Wilayat of Bausher on February 17-20, 2022 from 9am till 1pm.
- 4-Beside Muttrah Health Centre on February 21-22, 2022 from 9am till 1pm.
- 5-Beside Sultan Centre in the Wilayat of Al Amerat on February 23-24, 2022 from 4pm till 8pm," the Directorate General of Health said in a statement.

COVID

<FROM A1> 'Vaccines have got rid of many diseases in the past'

"It is based on science," he said. "They do not apply any recommendation if it is not for the benefit of the Oman community: When I say community, I mean citizens and residents together. My thanks to the government that is taking care of both the citizens and the residents in Oman. Please take these recommendations seriously. Always take information from a reliable source - not from any unknown source - and apply it accordingly."

During the initial days of the vaccine rollout, Jabbour had seen some people take to social media to voice concerns over why the

vaccines had taken time to arrive in Oman. During the interview, he addressed this issue by explaining the process by which governments decide which vaccines are best for their populations.

"In the beginning, there were a lot of people saying on social media and elsewhere that the government had delayed procuring the vaccinations," he revealed.

"It is not a matter of getting vaccines now, tomorrow, or the day after. It is based on how safe and effective the vaccines are. All of this is based on science and the relevant studies. Oman does not take any step, until it is strongly scien-

tific, and evidence-based.

Pandemic

"During each pandemic or when there is a newly emerging infection, there will be challenges regarding production and government agreements with producers," explained Jabbour.

"This is what happened at the beginning, but Oman will not take any step that does not provide 100 percent benefit to the entire population.

"That is why we ask people to follow government policy, listen to them and see what recommendations they issue," he said. "Why

would you go and listen to other sources? Why would you listen to other policies? Every country has its own specific context. This is why you need to understand your government policy and thank God their policies are moving on the right track and progressing very well."

Jean Jabbour also tried to quell rumours put forth by people who are sceptical of taking the vaccines owing to a number of reasons.

"We know that there are some anti-vaccine groups that increase the hesitancy of taking the vaccine," he revealed. "But when these people are infected with the coro-

navirus, the importance of taking the vaccine becomes clear to them. Vaccines have been proven to rid so many diseases; our children around the world are healthy because of vaccines.

"There are some misconceptions among people that because vaccines were produced quickly, they are neither safe nor effective," said Jabbour. "I ask them to please show me their scientific evidence: All they are saying are theories that are very far from science, from medicine and very far from protecting their community. I advise every single individual to help your government."

Figures released by the Ministry of Health on Sunday, 13 February 2022, show that Oman recorded 4,701 infections over the weekend: 2,064 on Thursday the 10th, 1,295 on Friday the 11th and 1,342 on Saturday the 12th. However, more people recovered from COVID-19 (7,141) than those who tested positive, although sadly, 13 people died from the disease during this three-day period.

A total of 365,700 positive infections have been recorded in Oman since the start of the pandemic. 341,047 people have recovered, but unfortunately, 4,208 people have died from the virus.

DHOFAR BUILDING

<FROM A1> Landmark building presents sorry sight in aftermath of fire

In the short time that the firefighters took to arrive at the scene of the blaze, the shopkeepers as well as most of the residents above were able to successfully evacuate the premises. There were some, however, whose path of escape had been blocked by the blaze and the accompanying smoke. They were instructed to move to the left side of the building, which had remained relatively unburnt because the winds that fanned the blaze took the flames to the other side of the complex.

First aid

A few others went up to the roof to stay safe. CDAA personnel used hydraulic ladders to reach them and bring them back to the ground. About 10 people suffered injuries. Eight of them were administered first aid on the ground, two more required hospitalisation.

Understandably, during and in the immediate aftermath of the fire, Dhofar Building and its surrounding areas were swarming with personnel from CDAA, who were painstakingly sifting through the wreckage of the fire, while inspecting the damage the angry flames had caused, while Royal Oman Police patrols worked to cordon off civilian vehicle access to the site.



Emergency service teams from Muscat Electricity Distribution Company were also on hand to provide support relating to electricity supply, as and when it was needed.

It was, in many ways, a sorry sight for what had once been one of the most well-known buildings in

Ruwi, where many used to come, primarily on the weekends, to buy from the merchants who had no shortage of takers for their wares.

To provide some measure of comfort, CDAA officials also offered food to all the shopkeepers who anxiously waited outside for news about their shops and

their livelihoods.

As firefighters selflessly braved the flames, they also took measures to protect those in the surrounding buildings.

"We were asked to stay inside our shops and not come out, because the extent of the damage and the risk of the fire spreading was

not yet known," said a cafeteria worker who manned a shop on the other side of the street.

"Our shop was closed on Friday evening, but the moment we heard of the fire, we rushed here to see if everything was okay," said an employee at a store opposite Dhofar Building that sold computer parts.



"However, the police did not let us enter the street, so we went back home. We came back the next day and although our side of the street was safe, all of us are obviously saddened by what has happened to the shopkeepers that we have known for so long."

While the company that houses their staff in the building is working to find them alternate accommodation, many of the other residents have temporarily been put up by friends and relatives. Others have decided to stay in nearby hotels until they have updates on the condition of their homes.

To one of the shopkeepers, the fire represented a double blow of misfortune: "I had a readymade garments store in the building and lived a couple of floors up," he said. "I have lost my shop and am unable to enter my home. I cannot say anything about the future right now. Only time will tell what lies ahead."

To gain further clarity on the steps that will be taken once the impact of the fire has been assessed, *Times of Oman* did attempt to speak to the sponsors of some of the shopkeepers. They were, however, too upset to comment.

"I will speak when I am able to... now, I am in no condition to talk to anyone," said one of the sponsors.



بنك دُحْفَر
Bank Dhofar

Attractive car

For more information:
<https://bit.ly/BankdhofarEng>

the best bank for you.

2479 11 11 | www.bankdhofar.com

إشهار
Eshhar
Classifieds

Register for **Free** on
Times Eshhar classifieds
and you stand a chance to

WIN

some amazing gifts from Khyber
Restaurant and McDonald's in our raffle!

WhatsApp your name to
+968 93388405

*Conditions apply



MUSCAT: The total number of visitors to the Sultanate of Oman by the end of December 2021 reached 652,000 whilst the number of departures (Omani and expatriates) reached 1,900,000 by the end of December of 2021.

GCC visitors scored first as their number reached 293,125 followed by 106,042 visitors from India, 41,923 visitors from Yemen, 19,326 visitors from Pakistan and 18,173 visitors from Egypt.

The total revenues of hotels rated (3 - 5 stars) amounted to OMR102 million.

The number of guests in those hotels reached 1,200,000 until the end of December 2021, according to the latest data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI).

The data shows that the number of visitors coming to the Sultanate of Oman during December 2021 amounted to about 180,000 comprising an increase of 384% compared to 37,000 visitors during the same period of the previous year.

The number of GCC visitors reached 75,839 accounting for 42% of the total visitors during De-

cember 2021. Indian visitors constituted 12.7% of the total visitors, Germans constituted 5.4%, Yemenis accounted for 4.8% of the total visitors during December 2021.

As for the number of departures from the Sultanate of Oman during December 2021, they amounted to 336,000 comprising an increase of 245,000 departures compared to the same month of the previous year.

Omani departures constituted 60.7% of the total departures during December 2021, with an increase of 161,000 departures compared to the same period of the previous year.

The revenues of 3-5-star hotels amounted to RO 17.6 million during December 2021, compared to RO 7 million during the same month in 2020, comprising a growth of 149.2%. The number of guests in these hotels reached 136,000 during December 2021, compared to 84,500 guests during the same period of the previous year, constituting a rise of 61.4%. The occupancy rate reached 47.5% during December 2021, compared to 26.7% for the same period in 2020, going up by 77.6%.

-ONA

VISITORS TO OMAN SURGE 384% DURING DECEMBER 2021





TFM

95.4 FM

Follow us on

TFMOman



OMAN





order now

99217943

80076006

Download Salsabeel App

 

FREE DELIVERY

1st

5GB BOTTLE IN OMAN



OPEN-HEART SURGERY

Specialised medical team from Royal Hospital inserts pacemaker in patient

MUSCAT: A specialised medical team from the Royal Hospital met with success in conducting a complex transplant of a heartbeat regulator for a patient who had been suffering a defect in electrical connection between the atria and the ventricles.

The open-heart surgery involved a procedure to replace the tricuspid valve on the right atrium.

Dr. Najeeb Zahran Al Rawahi, Senior Consultant, Interventional Electrophysiology at the National Cardiac Center, head of the team, told Oman News Agency (ONA) that the complex part of the operation was the insertion of the electrical lead (wire) into the left ventricle through the outlets of the coronary sinus.

The 90-minute surgery was conducted through a small conduit of not more than 5 centimeters, without resorting to full anesthesia.

Dr. Najeeb pointed out that, in most cases, such operations are



MEMBERS OF THE SPECIALISED TEAM: The open-heart surgery involved a procedure to replace the tricuspid valve on the right atrium. — ONA

carried out by making an opening in chest under full-scale anesthesia and by fixing the lead to the outer wall of the heart.

The team that conducted the recent operation comprised physicians, nurses and technicians from the anesthesia, cardiac cath-

eterisation department at the National Centre and Cardiac surgery department at the Royal Hospital.

— ONA

MINISTRY OF HERITAGE AND TOURISM-OMRAN GROUP

Agreement signed to manage, operate Bahla Fort, Oasis

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Heritage and Tourism has inked an agreement with Oman Tourism Development Company (Omran Group) for the management and operation of Bahla Fort and Oasis in the Governorate of A'Dakhiliyah.

The step comes within the efforts of enriching sustainable tourism development in line with the National Tourism Strategy 2040.

The agreement was signed by Eng. Ibrahim Said Al Kharusi, the ministry's Undersecretary for Heritage Affairs, and Eng. Mohammed Salim Al Busaidi, Omran's Chairman of the Board of Directors.

As per the agreement, Omran Group will manage Bahla Fort and Oasis for a period of 15 years, including the internal and external areas of the site.

Al Kharusi said that Bahla Fort holds a unique place in Oman's rich history as it is the first historical landmark in Oman to be included on the UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1987. The site is considered as one of the main cultural and heritage destinations that attracts visitors and tourists from across the world.

He added that this agreement will aid the growth of the tourism industry by being a key contributor to the national economy. Based on the position of Bahla Fort as a unique cultural and historical landmark, the collaboration with OMRAN Group is a step that will further support the management and promotion of major historical and cultural sites. It



will attract more visitors from Oman and beyond.

Al Busaidi, Chairman of Omran Group said that this agreement embodies the successes accomplished by the Omran Group in managing and operating many heritage, geological and environmental sites. The Group plays a strategic role in creating new tourism experiences and products in collaboration with the private sector. The objective is to maximize the economic and social returns as well as innovatively promoting the cultural and natural treasures of Oman.

This collaboration is expected to improve the operational aspects of the historical site. As a result, the Omran Group will collaborate with SMEs in operating operational the Bahla Fort and Oasis facilities, which is in line with the group's efforts in boosting In-country value (ICV). The operational scope of this partnership will entail providing tourist experiences of the fort and the area surrounding the oasis through the development of facilities and services, as well as incorporating the rich heritage and cultural characteristics of the Wilayat of Bahla, Al Busaidi added. — ONA

NATURE INDEX



SQU ranked best educational, research institution in Oman

MUSCAT: The Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) occupied first place as the best educational and research institution in the Sultanate of Oman, according to the database of Nature Index.

The ranking was informed by

the volume of distinguished research papers published in established scientific journals spanning the period from 1 November 2020 to 31 October 2021.

The index provides transparent and up-to-date based on in-

dependent reports corroborated with sufficient data.

Nature Index figures high among the 82 top high-impact ratio journals specialised in chemistry, bio and physio sciences, geology and environment. — ONA

FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Meeting on government digital transformation programme held

MUSCAT: Heads of Units of the State's Administrative Apparatus today held their first joint meeting on the five-year Government Digital Transformation Programme (2021-2025) endorsed by the Council of Ministers in July 2021.

The meeting was aimed at establishing a common platform for higher administration in the government sector to help monitor the progress made in the programme, the challenges and measures to resolve them to ensure streamlined implementation of the action plan and to achieve the desired national goals.

The meeting touched on the regulatory aspects and the rate of accomplishment of e-government goals of 2021.

It also studied the 2022 targets, the mechanism of monitoring, follow-up and measuring to be



utilised to assess the course of action, as well as the proposed projects and initiatives.

Eng. Said Hamoud Al Ma'awali, Minister of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, outlined the roles and responsibilities of heads of government units and the teams

tasked with implementing the programme. The Ministry will submit regular reports to the Council of Ministers accordingly.

The five-year plan of the government digital transformation programme is aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and the priorities of the national economy. — ONA

ANNIVERSARY

Oman marks World Radio Day

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman on Sunday marked the World Radio Day, which falls on 13 February each year.

This year's anniversary is themed, "Radio and Trust".

Member states of the UNESCO in 2011 declared 13 February every year as the World Radio Day. — ONA



Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

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

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-refundable)
3/2022	supply & maintenance of printers for ministry of social development & operated them with central system	Companies registered with the General Secretariat of the Tender Board that have the activity of supplying information technology services, technology and communications systems and programmes Registered in excellent or first	Friday 4-3-2022 02:00 PM	Thursday 24-3-2022 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

- ❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the Tender Board may obtain the Tender documents at the Tender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>) , On Sunday 13/2/2022
- ❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.
- ❖ For Inquiry , please contact through the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402200)

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

www.mosd.gov.om



TFM
95.4



Follow us on
TFMOman



Biden vows decisive response if Russia attacks Ukraine

Biden spoke to Putin from Camp David, the US presidential retreat in Maryland. The call lasted over an hour

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke on Saturday, as tensions over Ukraine reached a fever pitch following remarks by Washington that a Russian invasion was imminent.

Biden spoke to Putin from Camp David, the US presidential retreat in Maryland. The call lasted over an hour.

Biden warned that the US and its allies would “respond decisively and impose swift and severe costs” if Russia invades, according to the White House. He told Putin that invading Ukraine would cause “widespread human suffering.”

The US is ready to engage in diplomacy with Russia about the situation in Ukraine, but is “equally prepared for other scenarios,” Biden told Putin.

A US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told reporters that the conversation was “professional and substantive,” but that there was “no fundamental change



in the dynamics unfolding now for several weeks.”

It is the first time the two leaders have spoken since December.

Following the call, the Kremlin denounced US “peak hysteria” surrounding the Ukraine crisis, but said Putin and Biden had agreed to continue the dialogue.

The Kremlin’s top foreign policy adviser, Yuri Ushakov, said Putin complained the West has been arming Ukraine and that Kyiv authorities have been “sabotaging” Western-brokered peace agreements to end a yearslong conflict in eastern Ukraine.

Macron, Scholz, Zelenskyy also engaged

The leaders’ phone call came as several European countries have urged their citizens to leave Ukraine as soon as possible. On Saturday, the US cleared non-

emergency staff from its embassy in Kyiv and maintain a skeletal team in the western city of Lviv.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova also said Russian diplomatic personnel would be leaving the country’s Kyiv Embassy, leaving an “optimised” staff in the Ukrainian capital. Prior to Saturday’s call with Biden, Putin also spoke by phone with French President Emmanuel Macron. The two had met in Moscow earlier in the week to try to resolve what is seen as the biggest security crisis between Russia and the West since the Cold War. But a summary of the call presented by the Kremlin hinted that progress was not made toward diffusing the situation. Macron’s office, meanwhile, said “both expressed a desire to continue dialogue.”

Putin shot back at claims of an imminent Moscow invasion of

Ukraine, calling it a “provocation.”

The Elysee Palace said Macron had informed Putin that “sincere dialogue” was not compatible with an escalation of the situation in Ukraine. Macron consulted with Biden, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy later on Saturday.

All diplomatic hands on deck

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, on Saturday, as did US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, according to the US State and Defense departments.

Blinken reiterated that diplomatic channels of communication would remain open, but, to avoid conflict in Ukraine, Moscow would need to tangibly de-escalate its forces on Ukraine’s borders, the State Department said.

Later on Saturday, Blinken said the risk of invasion was currently high enough to justify the decision to reduce diplomatic staff in Ukraine.

“We ordered the departure of most of the Americans still at the US Embassy in Kyiv. The risk of Russian military action is high enough and the threat is imminent enough that this is the prudent thing to do,” Blinken told reporters in the US state of Hawaii.

The US has also announced it would remove 150 US military trainers currently located in Ukraine. **DW**



Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box 770,
Postal Code: 112



Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zedjali
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali
Chief Executive Officer: Ahmed Essa Al Zedjali

EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

INTERNALLY DISPLACED

Number of internally displaced in Myanmar doubles to 800,000: UN

YANGON: The number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Myanmar has doubled since February last year, now crossing the 800,000 mark, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) announced on Friday.

Speaking to journalists in Geneva, UNHCR spokesperson Matthew Saltmarsh said the agency was stepping up aid for the displaced as conflict intensifies. “Security is deteriorating rapidly across the country as fighting and armed conflict intensifies with no sign of abating,” Saltmarsh said.

In total, some 440,000 people have been newly displaced since February 2021 -when a brutal military coup displaced the democratically elected government - adding to an existing 370,000 who had fled their homes previously, the UN said in a statement.

The statement said that the agency believes the trend will accelerate, with more displacements in the coming weeks and months.

Meanwhile, the military came



to power in Myanmar on February 1 last year. The humanitarian situation in Myanmar remains precarious, with rising commodity prices, job and income losses, disruptions to basic services and prolonged insecurity.

Because of that, the majority of internally displaced people are consequently dependent on humanitarian support for survival, the statement said.

Some 600,000 stateless Rohingya in Rakhine state, including some 148,000 displaced in camps, villages and displacement sites, require humanitarian support, the statement added. **ANI**

FUNDS SPLIT

Karzai slams US decision of splitting funds, says \$7 billion assets belong to Afghan people

KABUL: Afghanistan’s former president Hamid Karzai said the USD 7 billion frozen assets belong to no government, but to the people of Afghanistan.

This comes after US President Biden on Friday signed an executive order to free 7 billion US dollars out of more than 9 billion frozen Afghan assets, splitting the money between humanitarian aid for Afghanistan and a fund for 9/11 victims. While addressing a press conference in Kabul Karzai called on the US government to return all of the funds to Afghanistan’s central bank.”

He further said the people side with the Islamic Emirate in calling for the return of all the frozen funds. If funds are returned, he said, they should not be spent on daily expenses but be preserved, and more funds should be added, Tolo reported.

“Osama bin Laden was not brought to Afghanistan by Afghans, Karzai said. He was brought in by foreigners from Pakistan and then he returned to Pakistan. Osama bin Laden was killed on



Pakistan soil, but now the Afghan people are paying the price for Pakistan’s actions,” Tolo News quoted Karzai as saying.

Earlier in the day, Afghanistan’s central bank also criticized the US decision to split USD 7 billion of the frozen Afghan assets and said it is an “injustice” to the people of Afghanistan.

“Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) considers the latest decision of USA on blocking FX (foreign exchange) reserves and allocating them to irrelevant purposes, injustice to the people of Afghanistan,” DAB, Central Bank of Afghanistan, said in a statement.

“DAB will never accept if the FX reserves of Afghanistan is paid under the name of compensation or humanitarian assistance to others and wants the reversal of the decision and release of all FX reserves of Afghanistan,” the statement added.

Afghanistan’s banking system remains crippled after the takeover of Kabul by the Taliban in mid-August last year. **ANI**

COVID PROTESTS

Police struggle to clear COVID protests in Canada

OTTAWA: Access to a key trade route between Canada and the US remained blocked late on Saturday as days-long protests against coronavirus restrictions continued in a number of Canadian cities, including the capital, Ottawa.

Some 180 protesters were blocking the Ambassador Bridge linking Windsor in the Canadian province of Ontario with the US city of Detroit, even after Canadian police succeeded in persuading demonstrators to move some trucks barricading the crossing earlier in the day. A first arrest was made by Windsor police on Saturday evening for a criminal offense in relation to the demonstration.

The bridge carries a quarter of all trade between the two countries, and the disruptions to traffic are believed to have caused millions of dollars in additional cost in the automobile sector alone so far. An order to end the blockade was issued by a court on Friday.

Police say many demonstrators ‘aggressive’
In Ottawa, where protesters have been encamped since a convoy of



truckers arrived in late January, police say some 4,000 demonstrators were gathered on Saturday. Many people arrived from outside the city to join the protests.

Although politicians and residents have called for the protests to be dispersed, police say they are limited in what they can do.

“Safety concerns — arising from aggressive, illegal behavior by many demonstrators — limited police enforcement capabilities,” Ottawa police said in a statement late Saturday.

They said a joint command center had now been set up together with the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Both federal and provincial leaders say they are not able to tell police what to do.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has called the protesters a “fringe” of Canadian society, has so far rejected calls to bring in the military. But his office has said authorities would not hesitate to pull out all the stops, if necessary.

“The prime minister stressed that border crossings cannot, and will not, remain closed, and that all options are on the table,” it said in a statement late Saturday after Trudeau met with senior officials. **DW**

“We choose homegrown
We choose A'Saffa

At A'Saffa, we are constantly trying to live up to the trust you have placed in us over the past 20 years. Consequently, our quality products ensure that you receive only the most flavourful and nutritious local food. With us, you will get nothing but the best.

اسم يمكنك الوثوق به
A name you can trust

asaffa.com





DO
MORE

MEDALS
TALLY

BEIJING 2022



Rank		G	S	B	T
1	Norway	9	5	7	21
2	Germany	8	5	1	14
3	USA	6	5	1	12
4	Netherlands	6	4	2	12
5	Sweden	5	3	3	11
6	Austria	4	6	4	14
7	ROC	4	5	8	17
8	PR China	4	3	2	9
9	Switzerland	3	0	5	8
10	France	2	6	2	10
11	Italy	2	5	4	11
12	Japan	2	4	5	11
13	Slovenia	2	2	2	6
14	Canada	1	4	9	14
15	Republic of Korea	1	3	1	5
16	Australia	1	2	1	4
17	Finland	1	1	2	4
18	Hungary	1	0	2	3
19	Czech Republic	1	0	1	2
20	New Zealand	1	0	0	1
20	Slovakia	1	0	0	1
22	Belarus	0	1	0	1
22	Spain	0	1	0	1
24	Belgium	0	0	1	1
24	Latvia	0	0	1	1
24	Poland	0	0	1	1

timesofoman.com

BEIJING OLYMPICS

The Netherlands win Olympic gold in women’s 3,000m short track

BEIJING: The Netherlands, led by three-time Olympic gold medalist Suzanne Schulting, claimed gold in the women’s 3,000m relay with an Olympic record time of four minutes and 3.409 seconds at the Beijing Winter Olympics here on Sunday.

South Korea took the silver in 4:03.627.

China’s women’s relay team, which consists of Qu Chunyu, Zhang Chutong, Fan Kexin and Zhang Yuting, earned the bronze in 4:03.863.

Team of the Netherlands celebrate after winning the gold medal in the women’s 3,000m relay final of short track speed skating at Capital Indoor Stadium in Beijing, capital of China, Feb. 13, 2022. *Xinhua*



GOLD MEDAL: Team of the Netherlands celebrate after winning the gold medal in the women’s 3,000m relay final of short track speed skating at Capital Indoor Stadium in Beijing.

CRICKET ROUND-UP

Victories for Jotun, Mazoon UP, Aflag Group, Israr Ghala in cricket league

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Raj Amal’s excellent all-round display helped Winner’s Jotun to a five-wicket victory against OCT Al Mabela in a D Division T20 League game at Muscat Municipality ground 3 in Amerat on Friday. Joby Abraham bowled exceptionally well for his 3 for 26, getting good support from Joby Balan (2 for 14) and Raj Amal (2 for 15) as OCT Mabela was bowled out for 92 in 17 overs. Asif Al Balushi topscored with 21.

It took Jotun 13.1 overs and five wickets to surpass the total as it reached 93 for a well-deserved victory. Raj Amal led the way with a solid 51 not out off 40. Basim Nazir took 2 for 18.

Khader, Shajeer star in Mazoon victory

In another D Division match, Mazoon UP rode on Khader Mohammad’s superb 84 off 57 and Shajeer Puthiya’s fabulous 4 for 19 to thrash Pitspot by 52 runs on Friday.

Khader’s top knock was the highlight of Mazoon’s 182 for 9. Monty Navani was the pick of Pitspot bowlers, taking 3 for 32.

Shajeer’s brilliant bowling was instrumental in restricting Pitspot to 130 for 7 in 20 overs. Mohazim Moosa topscored with a fluent 46 off 39.

Alam, Abbas help Aflag Group to easy win

Haris Alam and Shah Abbas were

the heroes of Aflag Group’s 60-run win over Sam Royals in an E Division T20 League match at OAC 3 ground in Seeb on Friday.

Aflag Group amassed 199 for 5 thanks to stylish 40 by Junaid Iqbal, 36 by Haris Alam and 31 by Farrukh Jamal. Sathisha Gundu claimed 2 for 35. Sam Royals failed to fight hard, managing to score only 139 for 8 in 20 overs despite Sathisha Gundus’ classy 77. Shah Abbas picked up 3 for 23 whereas Haris Alam claimed 2 for 22.

Amir bowls Israr Ghala to easy win

In another E Division game at the same venue, Amir Munir’s impressive 3 for 7 paved the way

for Israr Ghala’s 6-wicket victory against Capital Star.

Amir and Muhammed Saqib (3 for 27) were outstanding with the ball as Capital Star was dismissed for a paltry 88 in 14.2 overs.

Israr Ghala chased the total down in only 12.2 overs, scoring 91 for 4 thanks to vital knocks of 29 and 25 by Ali Gul and Nazar Abbas respectively. Saravanan Manickam bagged 2 for 25.

Brief Scores (E Division): Capital Star 88 all out in 14.2 overs (Maheswaran Annadurai 16 – 2x4. Amir Munir 3-7, Muhammed Saqib 3-27) lost to Israr Ghala 91 for 4 in 12.2 overs (Ali Gul 29 – 3x4, Nazar Abbas 25 – 3x4, Saravanan Manickam 2-25) by 6 wickets.

T20 SERIES

UAE register back-to-back wins in quadrangular T20 series

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The United Arab Emirates beat Ireland by 13 runs in the 4th game of the quadrangular T20 series at the Oman Cricket Academy Ground on Sunday.

Put into bat first after losing the toss, the UAE lost both openers well inside the powerplay. Muhammad Waseem, dealing exclusively in boundaries, was dismissed in the third over and five balls later in-form Chirag Suri followed suit.

It was the fourth wicket partnership however, that defined the UAE innings. 19-year-old Vriitya Aravind showed maturity well beyond his years, refusing to back down under pressure and counter attacking the Irish bowling unit at every possible opportunity. The other end was marshalled by Rohan Mustafa, whose robust yet measured knock provided the perfect foil for Aravind to inflict maximum damage. This 94-run partnership placed the UAE in pole position to finish with a flourish at the death, a proposition that enticed Kashif Daud. He smashed two sixes and two fours off Mark Adair’s final over, propelling the score from a competitive 155 after 19 overs to a daunting 178 at the end of 20. Craig Young was Ireland’s star performer with the ball, picking up 4 wickets for 28 runs.

Ireland’s chase got off to an extremely unfortunate start, as a running mix-up between the openers meant that Paul Stirling was back in the changing room after just 5 balls. Despite that setback, Gareth Delany and captain Andy Balbirnie retaliated, and punished the UAE’s bowling at-



tack in the powerplay. Delany was dismissed in the 6th over, but Ireland managed to keep the run rate above 10 for the next 3 and looked on course to complete a successful run chase.

Those hopes were dashed in the 10th over as spinner Meiyappan picked up the prized scalp of Balbirnie.

With that, the Irish challenge started to fade. Curtis Campher made 40 runs but took 39 balls to do so, looking extremely out of sorts in the middle. He was unable to step on the gas at any point of his innings and eventually, was unceremoniously run out in the final over.

Shane Getkate and Lorcan Tucker chipped in with useful knocks but couldn’t keep up with the sky-high asking rate. Ultimately, the demolition job performed by Kashif Daud in the

first innings had no Irish peer, and the UAE claimed a hard-fought but well-deserved 13 run victory in the end.

With this win the UAE stand atop the table, having continued their rich vein of form from the ODI series against Oman earlier this month. Ireland fought hard, and having beaten the hosts just 17 hours prior, have every right to assign the blame for this loss to fatigue. All eyes now turn to the tournament concluding double header on Monday, with Oman facing UAE and Ireland taking on Nepal.

Brief scores: UAE 178/5 in 20 overs (Rohan Mustafa 54(43) 6 x 4, 1 x 6 Vriitya Aravind 50(36) 3 x 4, 2 x 6 ; Craig Young 28(4) beat Ireland 165/7 in 20 overs (Andy Balbirnie 42(27) 2 x 4, 3 x 6 ; Palaniapan Meiyappan 23(2) by 13 runs



Tender Announcement

Muscat Gases Company SAOG About offering a tender for construction works for its branch located in Duqm “Cooking Gas Filling Station” that includes installation works, electrical connections and civil works as follows:

M	Bid Title	Bid Number	Last Date to receive Bids	Document Fees in OMR
1	Renew Duqm Project	TD/0102022	21 / 2 / 2022	50

Bids are to be submitted in an envelope sealed with red wax and deposited In a closed box at the company's main office located in Azaiba Building No. 172 Street 248

- The value of the document is deposited into the company's account at Oman Arab Bank 3117-802000-300
- The tender document, specifications and scope of work can be obtained from the company's website <https://www.muscatgas.com/tenders>
- Bids are deposited in a closed box located in the main office
- The last date for receiving bids is February 21, 2022

For Serious Buyers Please Contact us
22526900 / 91983358

During Official Working days
Timing From 8:00 am till 4:00 pm



Ooredoo Hala!

The new prepaid

ooredoo
Enjoy the Internet



Terms & conditions apply



MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS LOWER

The MSX index closed at 4,087.67 points, down by 0.12 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.13 per cent at 504.31 points. Sharqiya Desalination, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, National Aluminum Product, down 5.71 per cent, was the top loser.

Agreement inked to set up Exports e-Platform

The programme aims to set up an electronic platform that contributes to promoting Omani exports and displaying Omani products whose owners wish to market them through the electronic platform for other parties outside Oman

MUSCAT: The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion signed a cooperation programme with a local company that specialises in technology to



COOPERATION PROGRAMME: The agreement was signed by Aseela Salim Al Samsami, Investment Promotion Undersecretary and Thamir Ahmed Al Marhoon, CEO of the company. - ONA

set up Oman Exports e-Platform. The agreement was signed by Aseela Salim Al Samsami, Investment Promotion Undersecretary and Thamir Ahmed Al Marhoon, CEO of the company. The programme aims to set up an electronic platform that con-

tributes to promoting Omani exports and displaying Omani products whose owners wish to market them through the electronic platform for other parties outside the Sultanate of Oman. It also seeks to prepare promotional content for Omani products

and advertise them on the e-platform, in addition to conducting studies and research on the export environment in the Sultanate of Oman and the difficulties it faces and finding solutions to contribute to improving the marketing of Omani products. - ONA

CAPITAL MARKET AUTHORITY



CMA to host seminar on capital market and financing options

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Capital Market Authority (CMA) will organise a seminar on the capital market and its financing options under the theme 'The Capital Market and its Financing Options to Enhance the Investment Activities' on Tuesday, in collaboration with the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones. The seminar, which comes as part of the awareness activities of the CMA, targets the chairpersons of boards of directors and management of the companies operating at Sohar Free Zone and will be held at the administrative offices of Port Sohar. Speakers from the Capital Market Authority, Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX), Muscat Clearing Depository Company (MCD) and Uphar Capital will take part in the

seminar about the financing instruments available in the capital market in addition to highlighting the importance of the capital market in the economic growth of the companies as well as the role of MCD and its pivotal role in the capital market sector. The seminar will emphasize the roles of the capital market in achieving financial sustainability for the companies, the financing products available in the capital market and their use in the financial support of the companies and the advantage of financing by long-term debt instruments. The CMA will organise this year series of seminars for the companies operating in the free zones in the various wilayats of the Sultanate to introduce the capital market and its financing instruments in line with the Oman Vision 2040.

SUPPORT

Oman LNG finances 2nd Phase of Sur Public Park worth OMR3mn

MUSCAT: As part of its efforts to sustain the environment's unique biodiversity and transform the coastal landscape of Sur, Oman LNG has extended its support to the community to finance the second phase of the Sur Public Park, in collaboration with the South Sharqiyah Governor's Office. The support comes to commemorate the Royal Decree issued by the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour on February 9, 1994, to establish the company. That auspicious decree expressly paved the way for the country's natural gas resources to be parlayed into a better quality of life for the Omani people. The estimated cost of the second phase is OMR3 million and the park is set to be a public facility, attracting residents and visitors of Sur and South Sharqiyah Governorate in general. It is planned to operate as a self-sustaining enterprise, providing exceptional opportunities for entrepreneurship. Additionally, the park will boost the tourism sector in this magnificent and historic governorate. The second phase of Sur Public Park builds on earlier support where Oman LNG had funded detailed consultancy services for the design phase of the park, taking into consideration several im-



Oman LNG and its shareholders are determined to continue to play its pioneering role in the socio-economic fabric of the Sultanate

Talal Al Awfi
Chairman of Oman LNG



We feel privileged to pursue this project that will provide many opportunities for small and medium enterprises

Hamed Al Naamany
CEO of Oman LNG

tion, Talal Al Awfi, Chairman of Oman LNG, said, "As a responsible company, Oman LNG and its shareholders are determined to continue to play its pioneering role in the socio-economic fabric of the Sultanate and meeting community's aspirations. This initiative allows us to march in step with His Majesty, Sultan Haitham bin Tarik's call for the development of the governorates, which also aligns with the government's vision for the future as articulated in Oman's Vision 2040." From a global perspective, the Sur Public Park project ties in well with UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals, under the good health and well-being goal; the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for current and future generations, by addressing the global climate challenges the world is facing. Hamed Al Naamany, CEO of Oman LNG, said, "We feel privileged to pursue this project that will provide many opportunities for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to invest and grow new businesses and community for recreation. It is, by all means, an environment-friendly project that comes to raise awareness of nature-based carbon offset and enhance the touristic infrastructure in South Sharqiyah."

SHARE TRANSFER

Saudi Arabia transfers 4% of Aramco shares to PIF

RIYADH: The Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairman of the Council of Economic and Development Affairs, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Public Investment Fund His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud has announced the transfer of 4 per cent of the Saudi Arabian Oil Company's (Aramco) shares to the Public Investment Fund (PIF). The Crown Prince added that the transfer is part of Saudi Arabia's long-term strategy to support the restructuring of its economy, in line with Vision 2030. The transfer also supports the PIF's plans to grow its Assets under Management to around SAR 4 trillion by the end of 2025, the Saudi News Press reported. The shares will bolster the Fund's strong financial position. - BNA

Start a journey of more!

Kick-start the year with more savings and other amazing benefits on your favorite SUZUKI.

VAT Charges	Insurance (Oman & UAE) + Registration
2 Years / 40,000 Kms Service	5 Years Unlimited Mileage Warranty

Scan the QR Code to check out the SUZUKI SWIFT

Offer is valid from 15.01.22 to 14.03.22 on all models, except DZire GL. Insurance (Oman & UAE) & Registration is for the 1st year (Private yellow plate). Service is for 2 years or 40,000 Kms, whichever is earlier. 5 years/Unlimited mileage warranty is through AAA in accordance with their terms & conditions. Sales to Government institutions & Ministries, Rent-A-Car companies, Taxi and Driving schools are excluded from the scheme. Vehicles shown are for illustrative purposes only.

MOOSA ABDUL RAHMAN HASSAN & Co. LLC | 94760010 Wattayah | 94106970: For branches at Salalah | Sohar | Nizwa | Sur | Ibr | 800 76 200 | suzuki.moosagroup.com | suzuki.oman | suzukioman | Suzuki Global

MARKET

MSX index ends lower

Sharqiya Desalination, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, National Aluminum Product, down 5.71 per cent, was the top loser

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 4,087.67 points, down by 0.12 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended down by 0.13 per cent at 504.31 points. Sharqiya Desalination, up 9.09 per cent, was the top gainer while, National Aluminum Product, down 5.71 per cent, was the top loser. Shares of National Finance were the most active in terms of the number of shares traded while Bank Muscat was the most active in terms of turnover.

A total number of 456 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR5.02 million, with more than 28 million shares changing hands. Out of 43 traded securities, 9 advanced, 12 declined and 22 remained unchanged. At the session close, domestic investors were net buyers for OMR160,000 while

GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR94,000 followed by foreign investors for OMR66,000 worth of shares.

Financial Index closed at 6516.81 points, down by 0.21 per cent. Prices of Vision Insurance, Bank Nizwa, Bank Dhofar, Muscat Finance, and Al Sharqia Investment were up by 2.22 per cent, 1.02 per cent, 0.85 per cent, 0 per cent, and 0 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 5728.64 points, down by 0.23 per cent.

Services Index was up by 0.38 per cent before closing at 1629 points. Prices of Sharqiyah Desalination, Sembcorp Salalah, Oman National Engineering, Muscat Desalination, and Al Suwadi Power were up by 9.09 per cent, 2.78 per cent, 2.56 per cent, 2.11 per cent, and 2.08 per cent respectively. – United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	4,092.60	4,077.54	4,087.67	4,092.63	-4.96	-0.12
FINANCIAL INDEX	6,531.82	6,496.85	6,516.81	6,530.41	-13.60	-0.21
Industry Index	5,738.50	5,728.64	5,728.64	5,741.81	-13.17	-0.23
Services Index	1,629.00	1,621.49	1,629.00	1,622.88	6.12	0.38
MSX Shariah Index	504.83	504.32	504.32	504.96	-0.64	-0.13
MSX TR INDEX	4,926.45	4,908.33	4,920.52	4,926.49	-5.98	-0.12

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
28,037,740	5,016,001	456	22,018,256,236	9	12	22	43

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

SEC.	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RU)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PREV. VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000006920	VISION INSURANCE	70,000	6,430	7	0.090	0.094	0.090	0.092	0.090	0.002	2.222	0.092	0.092	0.094	0.100	9,200,000
OM0000001325	OMAN INVST& FIN.	100,000	15,609	6	0.154	0.160	0.154	0.156	0.154	0.002	1.299	0.160	0.150	0.157	0.100	36,972,000
OM0000001418	RAYSUT CEMENT	520	99	1	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.192	0.192	0.000	0.000	0.190	0.182	0.190	0.100	38,400,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	10,000	3,000	1	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.300	0.300	0.304	0.100	200,509,628
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	60,000	3,480	5	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.058	0.000	0.000	0.058	0.055	0.063	0.100	17,814,487
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	900,000	387,000	17	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.000	0.000	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.100	94,600,000
OM0000002200	AHLI BANK	3,122,296	374,583	20	0.120	0.120	0.119	0.120	0.120	0.000	0.000	0.120	0.119	0.120	0.100	233,958,896
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INV	2,450	225	1	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.094	0.094	0.000	0.000	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.100	8,460,000
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	3,724,934	1,933,619	33	0.520	0.520	0.518	0.520	0.520	0.000	0.000	0.520	0.520	0.528	0.100	1,858,726,892
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	350	273	3	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.000	0.000	0.780	0.780	0.792	0.100	585,000,000
OM0000003969	COBRED	801,400	286,904	20	0.360	0.360	0.358	0.358	0.358	0.000	0.000	0.358	0.354	0.358	0.100	233,038,034
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	250	115	1	0.460	0.460	0.460	0.464	0.464	0.000	0.000	0.460	0.440	0.462	0.100	25,520,000
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PROD.	631,400	239,983	37	0.382	0.382	0.380	0.380	0.384	-0.004	-1.042	0.380	0.378	0.380	0.100	47,461,225
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	32,000	10,056	6	0.314	0.318	0.314	0.314	0.318	-0.004	-1.258	0.318	0.318	0.320	0.100	19,218,142
OM0000005386	SOHAR INT. BANK	1,500,000	162,000	7	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.110	-0.002	-1.818	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.100	232,928,727
OM0000001772	ALANWAR INVESTMENT	1,131,447	94,054	58	0.085	0.086	0.081	0.083	0.085	-0.002	-2.353	0.081	0.081	0.083	0.100	16,600,000
Total	16	12,087,047	3,517,430	223												
Parallel Market																
OM0000004669	SHARQIYAH DESALIN	99,700	13,145	10	0.128	0.133	0.128	0.132	0.121	0.011	9.091	0.133	0.133	0.133	0.100	12,909,885
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	9,600	710	1	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.072	0.002	2.778	0.074	0.071	0.074	0.100	70,638,324
OM0000001152	OMAN NAT. ENG.	2,091,935	250,578	25	0.115	0.120	0.115	0.120	0.117	0.003	2.564	0.117	0.118	0.119	0.100	15,600,000
OM0000007084	MCT DESALINATE	54,000	5,232	8	0.095	0.098	0.095	0.097	0.095	0.002	2.105	0.098	0.096	0.098	0.100	15,088,389
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	22,000	1,068	4	0.049	0.049	0.048	0.049	0.048	0.001	2.083	0.049	0.048	0.049	0.100	35,005,911
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	1,948,419	192,625	32	0.098	0.099	0.098	0.099	0.098	0.001	1.020	0.098	0.099	0.099	0.100	221,458,350
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	500,000	59,500	12	0.119	0.119	0.119	0.119	0.118	0.001	0.847	0.119	0.118	0.119	0.100	356,565,821
OM0000001517	HSBC BANK OMAN	1,200,000	120,000	22	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	200,031,279
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	10,000	700	1	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.066	0.075	0.100	8,531,250
OM0000002848	NATIONAL FINANCE	7,300,267	638,798	3	0.112	0.112	0.087	0.117	0.117	0.000	0.000	0.112	0.114	0.120	0.100	63,323,963
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEER	21,000	1,512	3	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.072	0.000	0.000	0.072	0.072	0.073	0.100	14,615,024
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	23,910	1,004	2	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.042	0.000	0.000	0.042	0.000	0.042	0.100	9,282,420
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	20,800	998	1	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.000	0.048	0.100	9,582,509
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	9,917	476	2	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.047	0.049	0.100	32,394,597
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	208	10	1	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050	0.046	0.050	0.100	73,130,073
OM0000007043	NATIONAL LIFE INS	560	185	2	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.340	0.340	0.000	0.000	0.330	0.320	0.330	0.100	90,100,000
OM0000007407	DHOOFAR GENERATING	30,000	1,680	4	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.000	0.000	0.056	0.054	0.056	0.100	12,445,440
OM0000006979	OMAN QATAR INSUR	125,362	26,077	5	0.208	0.213	0.208	0.213	0.214	-0.001	-0.467	0.213	0.213	0.213	0.100	21,300,000
OM0000004768	MADINA TAKAFUL	47,000	4,512	6	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.097	-0.001	-1.031	0.096	0.095	0.097	0.100	16,800,000
OM0000008447	OMAN RETT FUND	61,000	4,986	5	0.082	0.082	0.081	0.082	0.083	-0.001	-1.205	0.082	0.082	0.083	0.100	38,637,284
OM0000005281	TAGEER FINANCE	30,000	2,430	1	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.082	-0.001	-1.220	0.081	0.081	0.081	0.100	20,580,790
OM0000003125	GLOBAL INV. H.	449,047	31,087	18	0.070	0.070	0.069	0.069	0.070	-0.001	-1.429	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.100	13,800,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	59,187	10,772	7	0.175	0.185	0.175	0.182	0.185	-0.003	-1.622	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.100	295,922,237
OM0000001568	OMAN FISHERIES	1,256,735	67,866	12	0.055	0.055	0.054	0.054	0.055	-0.001	-1.818	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.100	6,750,000
OM0000001319	ALUMINUM PROD.	500,600	49,796	42	0.100	0.100	0.097	0.099	0.105	-0.006	-5.714	0.097	0.098	0.097	0.100	3,325,574
Total	25	15,871,267	1,486,349	229												

Upper Air UV Purification

PHILIPS

UVC Technology Air disinfection

signify

Value Added Partner

specialized in

PHILIPS interact

COLOR KINETICS PHILIPS dynalite

High intensity effective zone in upper air for purification

Safe at eye level according to international regulation

Air movement by convection, natural or mechanical ventilation ensures that the bacteria, viruses and other micro organisms in the air pass through the UV zone.

Effective Height - 3m

Diameter - 5 to 6m

Droplets containing virus in the air

Droplets land in nose, mouth, possibly lungs

Two arm

1 to 2m

Droplets fall on surfaces / objects

On fingers from touching

The droplets eventually get into nose and mouth

NEW 4TH DIMENSION LLC Integrated Solutions

CR Number:1362674

info@new4thdimension.com

Contact: 98080865 / 98080867

www.new4thdimension.com

ROLE OF COMMUNICATION

Nama Group launches Silah programme

MUSCAT: In efforts to highlight the impact and importance of internal and external communication with employees, customers and stakeholders, Nama Group launched the Silah programme inviting its community to 'Be the Link'. The programme concept was formed to showcase the role of communication in the employee's and customer journey in the water and electricity sectors for the process of improvement and continuous development and to ensure communication reaches all target groups.

The programme focused on building data-driven approaches to develop a set of objectives to be achieved. The said objectives are divided into several stages, which are translated to initiatives that will form the roadmap for the upcoming communication strategy.



oman OASIS

BALANCED DRINKING WATER

SPECIAL DISCOUNT

RO 50 ONLY 31.50% discount

RO 20 ONLY 28.57% discount

Hot & Cold Dispenser

2 Full Bottles

25 Refill Coupons

White Tap Dispenser/ Tap Dispenser/ Manual Water Pump/ Cradle with Tap

2 Full Bottles

15 Refill Coupons

BUY & WIN 310 PRIZES

Get your raffle coupon on

Purchase of RO 20 or RO 50 offer or

Coupon book worth RO 20

Register your raffle coupon number at

www.omanoasis.com/discount2022 to win.

CALL TOLL-FREE 800 71 222 or GSM: 9275 5522

Special discount valid from 1st January 2022 to 31st March 2022. Conditions apply.

Scan QR Code to Register

CR.No: 1365452 MM 06/34/2022

TECHNOLOGY

Zoom update on Mac fixes bug that keeps microphone on after meetings

WASHINGTON: If you are a Mac user and your microphone stays active even after your meetings on Zoom, then here's how you can fix it.

Complaint

According to The Verge, Zoom has acknowledged a bug that appears to cause the microphone on Macs running macOS Monterey to stay on even after leaving a meeting; and the version 5.9.3 update on the app can only fix this. Users have been complaining about the issue since December, as documented in a post on Zoom's community forum.

As per The Verge, several users noticed that the orange recording indicator light in the Control Center appears when Zoom isn't being used - the indicator light is a privacy feature introduced in Monterey that warns a user when an application is using your microphone.

This obviously raised some privacy concerns, given Zoom had serious privacy vulnerability on Macs in the past. In 2020, the company was accused of misleading users about offering end-to-end encryption when it really didn't at the time. -ANI

MASTERCOOL

FOR COOLER EXPERIENCE

Energy saving , More cooling

MUSTAFA SULTAN ELECTRONICS LLC

Showroom : 24636015

LIFESTYLE

Valentine's Day

THE HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE SURROUNDING THE DAY OF LOVE

Love is in the air as the much-awaited Valentine's Day will be celebrated today by couples of all ages. While this day is now known for gifts, fancy dinner dates, and an overall celebration of love, the origins of Valentine's Day are far less romantic. Valentine's Day is named after Saint Valentine, a clergyman who lived in Rome during the 3rd century B.C.

HOW VALENTINE'S DAY GOT LINKED WITH LOVE?

The poet Geoffrey Chaucer, author of 'The Canterbury Tales', who lived during the Middle Ages was the first to link St Valentine with romantic love. This was the beginning of the tradition of courtly love, a ritual of expressing love and admiration, usually in secret.

This custom spread throughout Europe and stories grew about a High Court of Love where female judges would rule on issues related to love on 14 February each year. Historians believe that these meetings were in fact gatherings where people read love poetry.

The older practice of sending love messages gradually developed into people sending special cards expressing their affection. These cards were beautiful creations handmade by



the sender and individually designed to show how much they loved the recipient. Cards would usually contain sentimental verse, proclaiming the beauty of the receiver and how much they were loved.

Initially, it was about having one valentine throughout the year. But it later evolved in the 19th century and sparked questions about the sincerity of exchanging pre-printed cards and the sanity of spending exorbitant amounts of money on them.

Valentine's Day and the exchange of valentines were a way that people in the emerging middle class in the 19th century negotiated that complicated relationship between romantic love and the economic reality of marriage.

Valentine's Day today is celebrated in a variety of ways. While it is celebrated in most countries, different cultures have developed their own traditions around this day.

In some parts of the world, Valentine's Day is observed as a day for expressing love between family members and friends, rather than that of romantic couples. Some traditions include leaving lollies and gifts for children and others include acts of appreciation between friends.

For those who are trying to figure out what to do on Valentine's Day, it is important to know that there are no rules. This is a new era that we live in, and people can celebrate this day of love however they deem fit, even if it is just through self-love.

A nice dinner outing, going to the movies, cooking a fancy meal at home, or hosting Valentine's Day party are all great ways to celebrate this day of love. Whatever you might do, if you have a romantic partner, just make sure that both of you are on the same page to avoid any disappointments. -ANI



5 BUDGET-FRIENDLY GIFTS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

TO SAVE YOU from all the stress of choosing the perfect gift and let you enjoy this celebration of love, we've rounded up a list of V-Day presents that balance thoughtfulness and budget.

1. Love Journal

The best Valentine's Day gifts aren't necessarily the most expensive ones. A little book of love notes isn't going to break the bank, but it will certainly leave a mark on his/her heart. Buy a journal and fill in the pages to create a personalised gift book that your loved one will want to read again and again. You can fill each page with lines that describe something you love about them. You can be as

cheesy or as romantic as you like but it's guaranteed to be one of the most memorable presents your partner will ever receive.

2. Fitness Wearable

Whether or not your partner is into fitness, this Valentine's Day, gift them your care in the form of a fitness wearable or a smartwatch. So for this Valentine's Day, surprise your partner by gifting them a fitness wearable that can help keep an eye out for the activities they do throughout the day.

3. Instant Camera

When you are with the one you adore, every moment is special and every moment counts.

There's no better way to capture those memories to remember than through a polaroid camera. The instant cameras bring that raw feel of photography and those prints are so compact and amazing. Pose, click, flip and voila, there's your printed moment. You can easily paste it up on the wall or add it to your photobook and cherish those memories for years to come.

4. Planters

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic absolutely reshaped our lives, and though it took us a lot of struggle, pain and time to adjust to the new normal, it also kind of made us more aware of our surroundings

and nature. Hence, this V-Day, gift your partner planters that will add an extra element of life to their house and transform the energy in the space.

5. Books

A good book is a better gift than candy and flowers combined, though books go great with chocolate and wine. Even if you are not able to determine the perfect book for your partner, think about the books that excite you the most. Or maybe even find one that the two of you can read together. In total, it's the personal touch that makes giving a book so fantastically special and even the Cupid would surely agree. -ANI

SPORTS

DUBAI: Oman's Ahmad Al Harthy and team-mates Charlie Eastwood and Sam De Haan began the Asian Le Mans Series with a top six finish during the first race of the new season at Dubai Autodrome on Saturday, 12th February – and the Oman Racing drivers are now aiming higher for race two today.

In a competitive and challenging four-hour race in the United Arab Emirates, the No.69 Aston Martin Vantage GT3 took the chequered flag just 0.4 seconds shy of the fifth placed McLaren 720S GT3 in the action-packed GT class.

Al Harthy took the opening stint, beginning at 16.30 local time, and delivered a strong drive from sixth on the GT class grid. Although losing some ground early on, the Omantel, OQ and MHD-ITICS backed racer settled down well and 30 minutes into the race he was back inside the top six.

Under immense pressure during the latter stages of the second half of his stint from the No.6 Mercedes-AMG, Al Harthy produced faultless laps and didn't put a wheel wrong to maintain position and importantly keep the rival car at bay.

Moving up into fourth position before the first round of pit-stops, Al Harthy handed over the Oman Racing car to British team-mate Sam De Haan early in hour two and when the race order settled De Haan held fifth place.

Slipping back to sixth position, he stayed there to the second pit-stop which came in hour three when Aston Martin 'works' driver Eastwood climbed behind the wheel and maintained the top six placing after the order had once again settled down.

Staying sixth up to a Full Course Yellow cautionary period near the end of the hour, Eastwood pitted for a final time and then returned to the track in eighth position in GT where he ultimately remained to the chequered flag.

Pressuring for seventh place during the closing laps, Eastwood couldn't quite make the breakthrough but eighth – and very importantly a healthy and undamaged Aston Martin – was a good start to the championship. Post-race, though, driving time infringement penalties for a couple of rival entries meant Oman Racing was classified in sixth position.

"It's a very competitive championship, a very tough race, but we knew that coming into the weekend and it's why we're here", said Al Harthy, "Finishing the opening race in a decent position was our priority from the outset, and also to look after the car as much as possible with two races back-to-back this weekend and then two more next weekend.

"We achieved what we set out to do in both respects, and we all drove the best we could. It's a good start to the Asian Le Mans Series for us, the whole team did a great job, and now the objective is to have a good race two here in Dubai and hopefully challenge for an even better finish."

SIXTH PLACE FOR AL HARTHY AND OMAN RACING IN ASIAN LE MANS SERIES OPENER



ROUND-UP

Kalyan Jewellers unveils exclusive collection

Celebrating the spirit of Valentine’s Day, Kalyan Jewellers has launched an exclusive collection for everyone who wants to gift special jewellery that highlights the uniqueness of their companionship

MUSCAT: February is the season to bestow yourself and your loved ones with gifts that they will cherish forever and will signify your love for them.

Celebrating the spirit of Valentine’s Day, Kalyan Jewellers, a leading jewellery brand, has launched an exclusive collection for everyone who wants to gift special jewellery that highlights

the uniqueness of their companionship. This unique line comprises lightweight gold jewellery including pendants, rings, earrings and more - studded with precious stones and diamonds. The collection also includes jewellery with exquisite motifs in rose gold.

Celebrating this season, Kalyan Jewellers has also announced a “Spin and Win” offer for all their

customers with assured gifts for all purchases made over OMR 100 until 14th February. These gifts include gift vouchers, gift cards, diamond pendants, and also calls from their brand ambassadors.

Limited edition

Talking about the launch of the limited edition jewellery for Valentine’s Day, Ramesh Kalyanaraman, Executive Director, Kalyan Jewellers said, “Our newest collection curated for the occasion of Valentine’s Day is affordable, lightweight, stylish and complements the theme of the occasion with distinctive designs. The collection is attractive and matches the higher quality associated with the brand.”

As part of the Kalyan Jewellers’ ‘We Care’ COVID-19 guidelines, the company has instituted the highest level of safety and precautionary measures across all showrooms to safeguard the health and

safety of both customers and staff alike. The company has also appointed a ‘Safety Measure Officer’ to ensure safety protocol guidelines are strictly followed.

Kalyan Jewellers draws from a product portfolio of thousands of contemporary and traditional designs and offers selections for everyday wear, as well as bridal wear and festive occasions across 151 showrooms in India and the Middle East. Customers can also avail of the benefits of Kalyan’s 4-Level Assurance Certification on gold jewellery. While jewellery retailed at Kalyan Jewellers goes through multiple purity tests, the 4-level assurance certificate promises customers payment on the value of purity mentioned in the invoice during exchange or resale. The certification also assures free lifetime maintenance of ornaments at any Kalyan Jewellers’ showroom in the country.



Belkin opens two new stores in Oman

MUSCAT: Belkin International, a global consumer electronics leader, opens two exclusive Belkin stores in Oman in partnership with AAMAAL. The outlets, located at the Mall of Oman and the City Centre Qurum, showcase the unique and latest range of Belkin products while increasing brand awareness across the Middle East. The opening follows the success of two trial franchise concepts in the Sultanate.

The grand opening was inaugurated by the footballer Ali Al Habsi. Belkin has signed Oman national football star and 2022 FIFA World Cup Ambassador Ali Al Habsi as the face to drive brand awareness about the upcoming Belkin stores and Belkin products. He will also represent the brand at various official functions.

Fawad Mir, Regional Managing Director of Belkin EMEA, said: “The retail environment in the region is increasingly sophisticated, with customers looking to experience products before making their buying decisions. Our two new stores in Oman cater to this trend while reaffirming our commitment to the region. We invite customers to experience our innovations and premium quality in an attractive and modern setting. We will continue to expand and grow our business while keeping customer centrality at the heart of our operations.”

Sheikh Al Harith Al Khalili, the Executive Partner at AAMAAL LLC, expressed: “This is an important milestone in Belkin’s journey in Oman and the region.

Belkin stores aim to provide state of art customer experience, which the brand has to offer. This collaboration will strengthen AAMAAL’s footprint in the region, and AAMAAL looks forward to a sustainable business partnership with Belkin.

The stores will offer a one-of-a-kind retail experience for customers across Oman to explore products in an interactive setting. A custom-built video wall at the storefront and audio-visual projections on the inner LED screens will guide consumers through the product journey. Customers will also have access to a customer experience desk with an experiential display showcasing top-selling products in categories such as audio, power banks, Magsafe charging products and more. The full range of Belkin products will be in stock with trained salespeople to guide customers through the product experience. The stores will also host exclusive product launches and special events for customers.

Speaking on his collaboration with Belkin, Ali Al Habsi, one of Oman’s top football players, said, “I am honoured to be representing a globally renowned brand like Belkin, which is synonymous with premium quality and unique designs. Belkin continues to offer its consumers innovative and smart products, providing them with convenient and upgraded lifestyles. I look forward to contributing to the brand’s continued success in the Sultanate of Oman and the Gulf region.”

COMPACT SUV

Do more, live more with exciting Kia Sonet SUV

MUSCAT: Kia’s compact yet thrilling Sonet SUV, is fuel-efficient and powerful too. Sporting a stylish design, impressive interior and storage space, the Sonet is popular among those who seek to enjoy the city streets as well as weekend getaways. The powerful and affordable 5-seater Sonet SUV has a 1.5L engine paired to a CVT Transmission and offers a 17.5KmpL fuel average.

Designed around the driver with a well laid-out, intuitive infotainment and cluster interface, the Sonet was built taking into consideration the end user’s experience. The Sonet comes with Android Auto and Apple CarPlay features, Audio Remote Control, Bluetooth, USB charger. Harboursing functional qualities in every inch of its ergonomic space.

Underlining the Sonet’s attractive looks are the body colour out-



side mirror, 2-tone bumper, power outside mirror, body colour door handles, side repeater lamps in the outside mirror, 16” alloy wheels, chrome radiator grille, rear fog

lamps, LED front fog lamps, roof rack, LED headlamps, LED daytime running lamps and more.

Boasting multiple segment-first features that offer the ultimate

driving experience for customers, the Sonet provides comfort, convenience, and safety. Fitted with an 8” Audio Display, the Sonet also comes with other smart features such as remote engine start, auto cruise control and more. Adding to increased levels of convenience as features like keyless entry system, smart key with button start, central door lock and more.

Kia has ensured that every drive with the Sonet is as hassle-free and safe as possible, thanks to a rigorous set of measures created in line with Kia’s pillars of safety. Among Sonet’s key safety features are driver and front passenger airbags, ABS (anti-lock braking system), ESP (Electronic Stability Program), Rear parking assist system, Rearview camera, tyre pressure monitoring system (TPMS) and ISOFIX child-seat anchoring points.

OUTSTANDING

Managing directors of top establishments receive 10-year Golden Visa in Oman

MUSCAT: Sponsors of two leading establishments in the Sultanate of Oman, were handed over Golden Visas with 10-year validity to their respective investors Rathish Rajan and Venu Sivasadas, at a closed-door function maintaining strict COVID protocols. They received the Golden Visas for their outstanding performance and contribution towards the growth of the Sultanate of Oman’s economy in a short span.

Rathish Rajan is Managing Director of Al Amani Modern Trading, Sultanate of Oman which is part of Amani TVR group, Dubai, selling OEM quality spare parts of Japanese and Korean cars. With 23 branches, the group has a major presence in Dubai, Qatar, Oman and Bahrain. Due to the efforts of Rathish Rajan, the group managed its growth in the Sultanate of Oman by adding 3 more branches in Sohar, Ma’abala and Salalah in addition to the Wadi Kabir branch, which acts as the country’s HO in the Sultanate of Oman. Amani TVR group started its operations in 1978 in Dubai by Founder and Chairman TV Rajan with his untiring efforts and quest for quality. The group now boasts 40 years of excellent service in the automobile industry.

Rathish Rajan accepted the val-



uable Golden Visa from his sponsor Yousuf Mohammed Sabil Al Zadjali, Director of Al Amani Modern trading, who has been a strong pillar in supporting the groups’ expansion plans in the Sultanate of Oman. On the occasion, Rathish Rajan thanked all staff members and his counterparts Rajesh Rajan (MD, Qatar), Shikkulal (MD, Bahrain), Ranjini (MD, UAE) for their continued support.

Venu Sivasadas, Managing Director of Oriental Engineering and Trading, accepted his Golden Visa with 10 years validity from his sponsor Ali Mohammed Aubad Al Masahli. Oriental Engineering and Trading was established in 2017, which is an engineering and



speciality works company that has shown good growth and expanded within a small period. On the occasion, Venu Sivasadas thanked all well-wishers and supporters and said “within 4 years of working relentlessly we have established 10 divisions of expertise all around the Sultanate of Oman and are looking forward to more success and growth in the future”

Venu Sivasadas went on to thank the sponsor Ali Mohammed Aubad Al Masahli who always urged him to take on new challenges and motivated him to achieve his milestones. He urged both the establishments to work towards the progress of Oman’s economy, in tune with Oman Vision 2040.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Bank Muscat extends its support to Omani Association of Hearing Impaired

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider, continues to extend strong support to disabled students studying in different educational institutions in Oman, in line with its efforts in the field of social responsibility.

As part of its commitment to deliver long-term benefits to society, the bank recently partnered with the Omani Association of the Hearing Impaired to provide several hearing aids to school and university students in Oman. Accordingly, a number of hearing aids with special features were distributed to students at the premises of the Omani Association of Hearing Impaired in the presence of Talib Saif Al Makhmari, Manager, Community & Media Relations, Bank Muscat, Saif Humood Al Busaidi, Member of Board of Directors in the Association, and Hamad Nasser Al Amri, Sign Language Translator.

Speaking on the occasion, Talib Saif Al Makhmari, Manager, Community & Media Relations, Bank Muscat, said: “The bank is delighted to support and partner a number of civil society organisations and bodies in our endeavour to enhance the quality of life of all sections of our society. We hope that these devices will help



the students in their studies and their day-to-day lives by enhancing their skills and capabilities and their potential to contribute to our society. We would like to take this opportunity to specially thank and encourage the Omani Association of the Hearing Impaired for their dynamic and highly-motivated vision of supporting people with hearing disabilities and helping them achieve success in their lives. We wish all the students here today the very best for their future.”

Mohammed Mubarak Al Amri,

Chairman of the Omani Association of Hearing Impaired said: “We would like to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to Bank Muscat for its excellent role in supporting persons with disabilities over the years. The Bank has been a strong supporter of the Association and we are very happy with the support extended, which is making a world of difference to many young people in their pursuit to be productive citizens who are actively contributing to the growth and development of our beloved nation.”

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

حان الوقت لنلتقي مجددا

TIME TO MEET AGAIN

TURKISH AIRLINES

لندن LONDON

واشنطن WASHINGTON

ROUND-UP

Romantic getaway at Grand Millennium

Offering unparalleled service and grand surroundings, this ‘Romantic Getaway’ package offers your choice of accommodation from the spacious classic room and executive suite to the luxurious 3BR and 4BR apartments

MUSCAT: Rekindle the romance with your precious one and escape from the hustle and bustle of the city life and plan the rendezvous to a haven of privacy at Grand Millennium Muscat. Centrally located and attached seamlessly to Grand Muscat Mall, your getaway can include visits to various retail shops, as certainly every woman wants to be pampered with memorable gifts

on this occasion.

Offering unparalleled service and grand surroundings, this ‘Romantic Getaway’ package offers your choice of accommodation from the spacious Classic Room and Executive Suite to the luxurious 3BR and 4BR Apartments.

To ensure an even more delightful experience, this package includes breakfast and dinner for



two at Taybat Restaurant. A 10% discount on the Zanta Spa romantic package is available for a choice of any of their couple's treatments. The “Romantic Getaway” pack-

age is available between February 10 and 19 only. Rate starts at OMR75 per night, including the service charge and applicable taxes. Terms and conditions apply.

OFFER



Benefits on Toyota Corolla 1.8L Hybrid Electric vehicle

MUSCAT: The fuel-efficient and amazing to own Toyota Corolla 1.8L Hybrid Electric vehicle is available with exclusive benefits. They include Service 8 Years/80,000 km (Whichever is earlier), 1 Year Insurance Or Cash Gift instead of Insurance OMR175. The campaign is valid until 9th March 2022. (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & Condi-

tions apply. Visit the showroom for exact details.).

Owning the powerful 1.8L Toyota Corolla Hybrid Electric vehicle is a great choice when compared to many petrol sedans in the category. Its Hybrid Electric technology makes it churn out better mileage and even more savings due to lesser visits to the fuel station. Based on the TNGA platform, the Corolla offers some of the smoothest and stable driving experiences too.

RECOGNITION



Badr Al Samaa hospital receives ‘Most Trusted Brand of Oman’ award

MUSCAT: Badr Al Samaa is the proud recipient of the highly important recognition – “Oman's Most Trusted Brand” in the Private Hospital Category.

This is the fifth year in a row; Badr Al Samaa, the largest private healthcare group claimed the immense trust of the patients and society at large. The award was received by Managing Directors of Badr Al Samaa Abdul Latheef and Dr P A Mohammed in a glittering event attended by hundreds of industry leaders and winners from other industries.

Speaking to the media at the venue, Abdul Latheef said that this year Badr Al Samaa Group of Hospitals entered its 20th year of operations in Oman and the theme of this occasion is 20 years of Trust and Care. He said we are celebrating the whole year as the year of our patient's trust in the services of Badr Al Samaa Group of Hospitals. He added “In healthcare delivery, trust is the most important factor. Our commitment to the people of Oman by delivering the best quality healthcare at the most affordable in the length and breadth of the nation has helped us to gain and maintain the trust of the people. We will continue touching lives and bring smiles.”

Dr P A Mohammed added that their exceptional healthcare services are recognized by the world's best accreditation organisation, Joint Commission International (JCI), USA and Patient Friendly Safety Hospital Initiative (PFSHI) by the Ministry of Health and World Health Organization. Uncompromised quality healthcare has helped them to gain the trust of the people at large. He further added that to enhance the standards of quality this year four centres of Badr Al Samaa; Barka, Salalah, Sohar and Nizwa underwent The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS).

This will make Badr Al Samaa the only private healthcare group having the highest number of accreditations.

They further said, “This moment is special and different. Unlike other awards, this time we are not chosen by a jury but by the people themselves who have developed immense faith and trust in us since we started in 2002. We express our gratitude to our patients, who have entrusted their health in our hands. And we thank our doctors, nurses, paramedics, and all our staff for contributing to this feat which we achieved today”.

REBRANDING

Atyab Food Industries launches new brand identity

MUSCAT: Atyab Food Industries, a home-grown Omani brand and one of the leading industrial bakeries in the Gulf region, has completed an extensive rebranding effort in response to accelerated company growth and a renewal of its corporate vision.

At the heart of this rebranding is an update to the corporate logo with ‘Atyab’ boldly on display – the updated brand identity under which the company aims to launch a host of new products to better serve and bring smiles to its customers across the region.

The company has recently launched its new brand identity in the Sultanate of Oman. Commenting on the introduction of the new branding, the CEO of Atyab, Ali Kashoob said, “Atyab is truly a ‘one-of-a-kind’ industrial bakery that has served as an essential part of Oman's food industry for the past 10 years, often clubbed as a trusted brand under ‘Dahabi’.

As the market has continued to evolve, our authentic Omani taste and quality helped us connect with our customers and grow in popularity with each passing year. We now feel that Atyab is ready to serve the region's changing needs, bringing smiles to the faces of our customers across Oman and the region with the best, most nutritious and tasty food we can offer under our brand.

“The launch of this new brand identity is, therefore, a major milestone for us as a company. For this reason, we wanted to design a logo that would exemplify our passion for food and the level of care we put into every product we produce. Extreme thought and care were subsequently put into every aspect of our new logo, and I feel that, together with our new product offerings, our new brand identity completely embodies each of these aspects of our business in both emotion and design.”

Atyab's new brand identity and logo, which will eventually adorn the packaging of a range of new products as they are launched, features the name in clear, direct font signifying the company's magnitude. The “playful smiles” above it has been intentionally and carefully designed to be perceived in multiple ways. The first and foremost reflect the brand's offering: good food that makes you happy. The interlinked smiles also represent

the consumer and the brand connected by the love of good food and togetherness.

The logo can also be perceived as interlinked Omani dhow, signifying that food from Oman delights the world. Lastly, the symbols also represent a bright moon and a darker moon – markers of the region and signify the journey and rise of Atyab as a brand that truly understands quality food.

“One of the secrets to our continued success, quality, and unique taste is the specially formulated ‘Dahabi’ flour, which is mixed exclusively for Atyab. With this flour, we continue to deliver only the tastiest, most nutritious, and highest quality food that our customers in Oman and beyond have come to expect from us. Under the new brand, we shall continue to expand our product line, offering new and improved foods that keep our customers healthy and always puts a smile on their faces,” concluded Ali Kashoob.

This journey, began in 2012 with Atyab Food Industries establishing itself in the Sultanate of Oman, at a time when the country was largely importing products and services from around the world for its people. Atyab as a brand saw this both as a challenge and an opportunity. With the help of sustained and sound investments, the brand built a state-of-the-art production facility and took great pride in manufacturing essential food products in-house. As a result, Atyab established itself as a truly homegrown Omani brand, one that provided an authentic and unmatched flavour.



TALENT FEST

Incredible journey of infinite potential: ISTF

MUSCAT: The third edition of the Indian School Talent Fest (ISTF 2021), the mega cultural extravaganza organised by Indian School Darsait under the aegis of the Board of Directors for all the Indian Schools in Oman was conducted virtually and aired on all major social media platforms on January 14, 15, 21 and 22, raising the benchmark for excellence.

The mega event was instrumental in bringing together participants from Kindergarten to Grade XII from 21 Indian Schools including the Care and Special Education. The event aimed at providing an opportunity for students to discover and acknowledge their potential.

Selected entries received from various schools under different categories were sorted, evaluated and shortlisted by the panel of esteemed judges. Consequently, as many as 222 A+ events were streamed on Facebook and YouTube for four days that have amassed a wide range of viewership from people across Oman and around the world. There was a considerable congruence among all the Indian schools, which was evident from the substantial participation and support shown from all quarters. Participation certificates will be presented to all the participants and the shortlisted graded entries will be bestowed with merit certificates.

The event was inaugurated by Amit Narang, Ambassador of India to Oman, with the presence of Dr Sivakumar Manickam, Chairman, Board of Directors, Salim Sakhi, the special guest of the event and Sebastian Chungath, President, School Management Committee.

“ISTF conducted annually by the board provides an unparalleled forum for the students to test their artistic prowess. The opportunity that ISTF offers them to exhibit their skills and talents in the field of culture, literary and other activities on a common platform certainly helps to facilitate their overall development. I congratulate Indian School Darsait and the Team ISTF for leaving no stone unturned for creating this wonderful platform a great learning experience for all the students,” said Manickam.

SODIUM FREE DRINKING WATER

The healthy choice

Call Toll-Free 800 71 222 or GSM 9275 5522

OmanOasis OmanOasisOfficial OmanOasisWater www.omanoasis.com

C.R. No.: 1365452

Be the winner of valuable prizes from **Thawani App**

Download
Thawani app

Activate your
Mojab wallet

Order
Mojab card

Click to download



#أسهل-موجب

 thawani

Jeep®



A LEGEND REDESIGNED

THE FIRST-EVER SEVEN-SEATER GRAND CHEROKEE L

Exceptional capability, stunning looks, the latest technology and complete comfort for all seven passengers. The all-new three-row Jeep Grand Cherokee L will turn every journey into a wildly civilized adventure.

**Visit our showrooms across Oman
to book a test-drive today.**

BOOK A TEST DRIVE