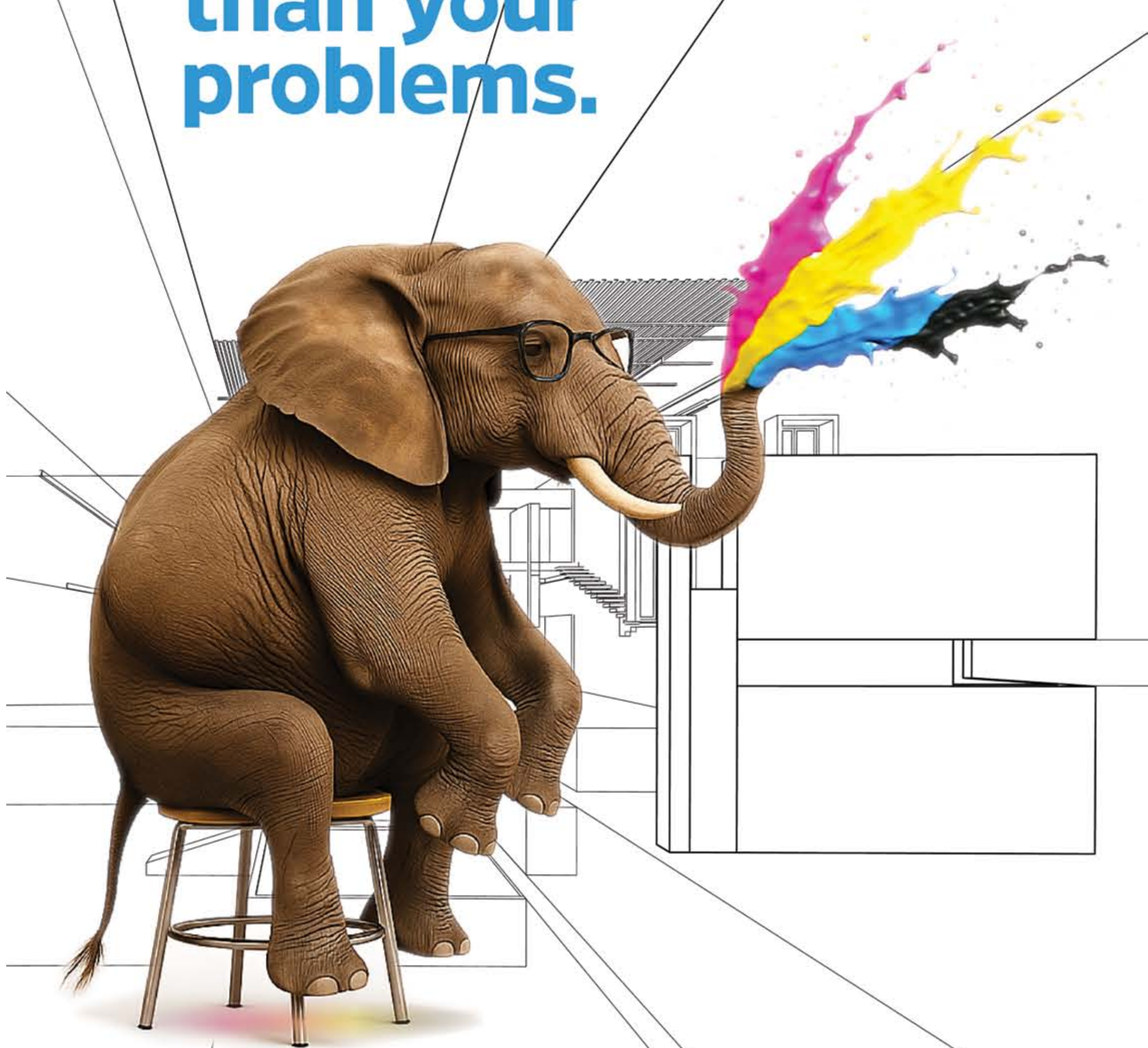


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COMMENTARY

How can they bring their skills home?

Namariq Al Riyami is one of the increasingly young Omanis who are torn between their own homeland and the professional trappings of working abroad.

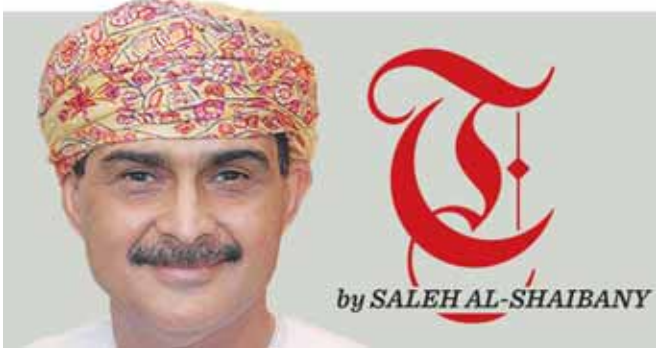
It all started when she was awarded a scholarship by the ministry of education and left Oman in 2014 and headed to Michigan, United States. After her bachelor in Industrial and Systems Engineering, she decided to upgrade her education with two postgraduates in the same field.

Then came the crunch that impelled her to make a decision that would change the bearings in her life. Should she come back to Oman and look for a job? It was not easy to make that decision but decided to stay on in Michigan and joined a car parts manufacturing company.

For her, it was an exciting choice to get into a carrier that did not exist, not just in Oman, but the rest of the gulf countries.

She thought it would expand her professional horizon and learn something new, which otherwise, she would not get it back home.

With a five-year work experience for car parts production, she said that working for a manufacturing environment, has given her strong exposure to international standards in



by SALEH AL-SHAIBANY

program management, commercial strategy and customer management.

“That experience gave me direct insight into how major automakers develop and launch vehicle programs,” she said. But that’s not all.

A sizeable chunk of her working program involves close coordination with engineering teams based in China, Korea, Germany, Japan and the United Kingdom.

“Which has helped me develop a strong understanding of how different cultures communicate, operate, make decisions and the approach problem-solving in multi-million dollar deals,” she pointed out.

Is she considering coming back home after more than a decade away? She said it is certainly in her near future radar beam now that Oman has started the drive of vehicle manufacturing units in the free

and economic zones.

With her experience, she is well equipped to slot in and contribute what she has learned in the vehicle manufacturing industries that are about to takeoff in Oman.

“It is certainly in my mind to join the car manufacturing projects in Oman if I get approached. I will be happy to transfer my skills to my country and perhaps be the first Omani engineer in the local vehicle industry,” Namariq added.

But Namariq is one of many young Omanis spreading their wings beyond the country’s horizons and many feels they need to come back to fill many professional gaps for the advancement of their homeland.

They are much needed back home in a country that is fast attracting international investments in projects to boost investments.

ROYAL HOSPITAL

First cardiac catheterisation using Impella CP with Smart-Assist device performed

MUSCAT: The Royal Hospital’s National Heart Centre has successfully performed its first complex cardiac catheterisation procedure using the Impella CP with Smart-Assist device. The procedure was carried out by a highly skilled Omani medical team, supported by a comprehensive staff of specialised nursing and technical personnel.

Dr. Adil Al Jabri, Head of the Cardiac Catheterisation Department at the National Heart Centre, said that the Impella CP with Smart-Assist device represents one of the latest advanced global medical innovations. He noted that the device functions as a micro-pump inserted via catheter to temporarily support the heart muscle and assist it in efficiently pumping blood to the rest of the body.

Dr. Adil pointed out that recent studies have affirmed the technology’s efficiency in supporting blood circulation and improving survival rates for this segment of patients, as it boosts the potential for advanced therapeutic intervention in cases of cardiogenic shock.

Dr. Najib Zahran Al Rawahi, Director of the National Heart Cen-



tre, told the Oman News Agency (ONA) that the introduction of this technology into the treatment system marks a significant milestone in the development of cardiac services and reflects the keenness of the medical and technical teams to keep pace with the latest global medical practices

and technologies.

This accomplishment underscores the constant development of the health sector in the Sultanate of Oman and underlines the Royal Hospital commitment to adopt and localise the latest global therapeutic technologies.

— ONA

Miras project aims to empower health sector leaders in Oman

The project aims to enhance innovation skills and equip participants with the latest administrative knowledge and methodologies

MUSCAT: The Directorate General of Health Services in Muscat Governorate, represented by the Human Resources Department, launched on Sunday the second edition of Miras project to empower health leaders.

The launch ceremony was held under the auspices of Sulaiman Nasser Al Hajji, Ministry of Health’s Undersecretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs, in the presence of Directors General, health leaders, and officials in Muscat Governorate.

The launch of this edition comes as a continuation of the Directo-

rate General’s efforts in investing in human capital and developing leadership and administrative capabilities among first- and second-line leaders of the health sector in the Governorate. The project aims to enhance empowerment and innovation skills, equip participants with the latest administrative knowledge and strategic methodologies, and directly reflect on raising the level of institutional performance and continuously developing the quality of health services provided to beneficiaries.

In his speech, Mahmoud Al Nabhani, Director of Human Resour-



ces at Muscat Health, highlighted the importance of empowering human cadres. He stated that the strength of health systems is not measured by the technologies and modern equipment they possess, but rather by the awareness, planning, and management capabilities of the leaders. He affirmed that leaders are not a luxury or an added value, but a necessity for any sector whose daily decisions are linked to human life and health.

He also explained that the ex-

perience of the first batch proved the participants’ ability to transform ideas into realistic initiatives and administrative solutions that result in a tangible impact on health institutions. He stressed that investing in human cadres is the deepest and most enduring investment.

On the sidelines of the launch, an integrated scientific programme was held, comprising four specialised lectures addressing comprehensive leadership



and administrative dimensions. Dr. Draweesh Saif Al Maharbi presented a lecture titled “The Growth Mindset between Leadership Patterns and Decision-Making,” reviewing how to transform administrative challenges into opportunities for growth and responsible decision-making.

Dr. Qamrah Al Sariri, Director General of the Quality Assurance Centre, addressed the topic of “Quality Management and Performance Indicators,” emphasising

the importance of linking performance indicators to continuous improvement and patient safety.

Dr. Mohammed Al Ghafri, Director of Oman Vision 2040 Follow-up Office, presented a lecture on “Oman Vision 2040,” explaining the mechanisms for translating national axes into practical reality in the health sector.

The lectures concluded with a presentation by Dr. Abir Al Maamari on “Professional Ethics,” in which she affirmed the necessity of adhering to humanitarian principles and professional integrity as a foundation for providing high-quality health care.

The launching activities concluded with a panel discussion session led by Dr. Marwa Al Raisi. The session provided a space for exchanging experiences and visions between lecturers and leaders, linking theoretical concepts presented to practical applications and real-world challenges in the health work environment. — ONA

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HOSTED BY CAA

Oman hosts regional aviation safety meetings in Muscat

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The eighth meeting of the Safety Enhancement Implementation Group (SEIG/8) and the National Continuous Monitoring Coordinators Meeting (NCMC) began in Muscat on Sunday. Hosted by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) from 11 to 13 October, the meetings are being held in cooperation with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Middle East Regional Office.

The meetings bring together representatives from Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Egypt, Libya, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Jordan and Nigeria, along with representatives from ICAO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The meetings address key issues relating to aviation safety performance and priorities in the Middle East region. Discussions include follow-up on the outcomes and decisions of the 13th meeting of the Middle East Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-MID/13), as well as a review of progress in implementing safety enhancement initiatives outlined in the Middle East Regional Aviation Safety Plan (MID-RASP) for 2026–2028.

The agenda also covers progress in developing and implementing



National Aviation Safety Plans (NASPs) and State Safety Programmes (SSPs), updates on the Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) under the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP-CMA), and experiences shared by national continuous monitoring coordinators from participating states, including challenges and best practices.

The meetings will also examine

existing challenges and next steps, alongside the future work programme for improving aviation safety across the region.

Hosting the meetings is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen regional cooperation, facilitate the exchange of aviation safety expertise, and enhance states’ capabilities in safety oversight and the implementation of aviation safety programmes.

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IN ANKARA

Oman’s Embassy in Türkiye participates in World Cultures Festival

ANKARA: The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in the Republic of Türkiye on Sunday took part in the 4th edition of the World Cultures Festival in Ankara.

The embassy’s pavilion at the festival served as a comprehensive cultural and tourism platform that showcased the Sultanate of Oman’s cultural legacies and civilization.

The Omani pavilion attracted a large turnout of visitors to the festival’s venue, as it featured a display of products reflecting the originality of Omani identity and the country’s diverse heritage. The pavilion highlighted Omani values of generosity and hospitality, notably by offering visitors a selection of traditional Omani dishes, sweets (halwa), coffee and dates.

The pavilion’s activities also fostered lively interaction with the audience through the engagement of members of the diplomatic mission, their families and Omani students studying in Ankara. — **ONA**



JINDAL STEEL

JINDAL STEEL AND SOHAR UNIVERSITY

Partner to Establish Jindal Skill Training Centre in Oman Sohar, Sultanate of Oman

On the Establishment and Operation of the Jindal Skill Training Centre at Sohar University

JINDAL STEEL

جامعة صحر

Sohar University

Jindal Steel has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Sohar University to establish the Jindal Skill Training Centre, an initiative aimed at equipping Omani youth with industry-relevant skills and preparing them for the evolving demands of advanced manufacturing and technology.

The Centre will focus on practical training in Industrial skills including Advanced Manufacturing & Automation, combining Sohar University’s academic expertise with Jindal Steel’s extensive industrial experience.

Commenting on the partnership, Mr. Naveen Jindal, Chairman, Naveen Jindal Group, said:

“The true measure of progress is how well we prepare our youth for nation building. Through the Jindal Skill Training Centre, we aim to provide young Omanis with practical, future-ready skills that will enable them to contribute confidently to the industries of tomorrow. This initiative reflects Jindal Steel’s continued commitment to supporting youth empowerment, skills development and strengthening of Oman’s industrial capabilities, in alignment with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040. It will also enable Jindal Steel and the allied Manufacturing sector companies to advance Omanisation across technical leadership roles.

“Building Youth is building Nation. When we invest in the skills of young people, we invest in the future of a nation. This Centre represents our commitment to empowering Omani youth with the Future-ready skills preparing them for the technologies of tomorrow, and contributing to a stronger Oman,” Mr. Harsha Shetty, CEO Jindal Steel Oman added.

The Jindal Skill Training Centre will form part of Jindal Steel’s broader efforts toward youth development and capacity building in the Sultanate, supporting the creation of a skilled national workforce capable of contributing to Oman’s future industrial and economic growth.

Tender Notice

Oman Water & Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) hereby announces the following Tenders:

Tender No.	Description of Project	Eligibility	Tender Fee (RO)	Last Date of Distribution of Tender Documents	Bid Submission Date
OW/T/10102/2026	New Somhan Pump Station Suction Pipe Replacement in Barka / South AL-Batinah	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 250/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026
OWW/T/10071/2026	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the New Main Force Line from Pumping Station to STP in Al Rutsaq	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tender and Local Content Authority and International Companies specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026
OW/T/10082 /2026	Supply, Installation and Testing of Internal Lining System in Ghala Reservoirs # 02	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tender and Local Content Authority and specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026
OWW/T/10077/2026	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of the Odor Control Unit with all accessories at Barka Sewage Treatment Plant & Pump Station-1	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026
OWW/T/10069/2026	Design, Supply, Construction and Operation & Maintenance of Decentralized Sewage Treatment Plants at Al Ansab Park	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 50/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026
OWW/T/10060/2026	Design, Supply, Construction and Commissioning of New Masirah STP (1,400 m³/day)	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority and International Companies specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 500/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	30/11/2026
OW/T/10007/2026-2 Refloat	Consultancy Services for Level of Service Study (Potable Water, Wastewater & Treated Effluent)	Local Companies registered with Projects, Tenders and Local Content Authority specialized in the works mentioned	R.O 100/- (Plus 5% VAT) Non-refundable	22/10/2026	23/11/2026

- The tender documents can be obtained from the e-tendering page (Supplier Portal) from this announcement date. The applicants shall pay the tender fee by logging into Supplier Portal (Supplier Login: <https://nws.nama.om/en-us/> à Supplier Hub à Tenders à Supplier Login).
- Applicants who are not registered shall register through the following link: <https://nws.nama.om/en-us/Supplier-Hub/Vendors-Management/Vendor-Registration> to receive the login credentials of the Supplier portal.
- All applicants who have paid the tender fee shall have access to the Tender Documents through Nama Water Services Supplier Portal e-tendering page (. All participating companies shall submit a Bid Bond of 1% of the bid value in a sealed envelope. Bid Bonds must be obtained from a local Bank registered in the Sultanate of Oman addressed to Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) Chairman of Tender Committee not later than 2:00 pm on the bid submission date.
- The bid along with all required documents shall be uploaded through Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company (Nama Water Services) e-tendering page not later than 2:00 pm on the date specified above. For more details refer to Tender Page of our website <https://nws.nama.om> & in case of general queries you may contact us through the email ID of tender@owwsc.nama.om

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Research sheds new light on harmful algal blooms along the northern coast of Oman

According to professors, harmful algal blooms occur frequently in the Sea of Oman and can affect fisheries and aquaculture, disrupt desalination plants, interfere with marine activities and potentially affect tourism

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A research project led by Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) has shed new light on the environmental factors driving the formation and movement of harmful algal blooms along Oman's northern coast, with findings that could help protect desalination plants, fisheries and aquaculture operations.

The project, titled "Formation, Characteristics and Advection of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) along Northern Omani Coast", was funded by the Strategic Research Programme of the Research and Innovation Authority in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources. It was led by Prof. Sergey Dobretsov, UNESCO Chair in Marine Biotechnology at SQU's College of Agricultural and Marine Sciences and Centre of Excellence in Marine Biotechnology.

According to Prof. Dobretsov,



harmful algal blooms occur frequently in the Sea of Oman and can affect fisheries and aquaculture, disrupt desalination plants, interfere with marine activities and potentially affect tourism. The research aimed to improve understanding of the ecology of these blooms, identify the main environmental factors driving their development, and examine how they are transported and dispersed along the northern coast. The team combined biological sampling with advanced oceanographic technologies, including sea gliders, to monitor water conditions, circulation patterns and changes in marine ecosystems.

The findings revealed that harmful algal blooms in the Sea of Oman are influenced by a complex combination of environmental and oceanographic processes, including monsoon-driven winds, ocean currents, coastal upwelling, the outflow of water from the Arabian Gulf, internal tides and ocean eddies. Seasonal changes in water-column mixing and the thermocline — the layer separating

warmer surface water from colder deep water — were also found to influence nutrient availability and phytoplankton biomass.

The team observed changes in phytoplankton communities over time, with diatoms becoming dominant during 2018–2019. Noctiluca scintillans was identified as a major bloom-forming species in both surface and subsurface waters.

The study also investigated the role of the oxygen minimum zone, where dissolved oxygen levels are particularly low. The findings indicate that nutrient-rich upwelled waters, combined with low-oxygen conditions, may contribute to bloom formation. Meanwhile, the inflow of more oxygenated water from the Arabian Gulf can alter the depth and characteristics of the oxygen minimum zone.

The researchers also examined bacteria associated with harmful algal blooms. Bacillus species were the most abundant bacterial isolates recorded during the sampling period, while analyses revealed clear differences in bacterial communities between bloom



and non-bloom phases. The findings suggest a possible relationship between the abundance of Noctiluca scintillans and bacterial community diversity. Potentially pathogenic bacterial strains were also detected, underscoring the need for continued monitoring and further research into interactions between harmful algal blooms and marine microbial communities.

Based on the findings, Prof. Do-



bretsov recommended strengthening real-time monitoring at desalination plant intake points. Key indicators should include chlorophyll-a, turbidity, dissolved oxygen levels and the presence of harmful algal species to support early detection and rapid response.

He also recommended optimising pretreatment systems to manage high algal biomass and organic matter more effectively, reducing membrane fouling and associated operating costs. Desalination plants should maintain flexible contingency plans for severe bloom events, including reducing intake rates, temporarily suspending operations or switching to alternative water sources where possible.

For fisheries and aquaculture, Prof. Dobretsov recommended considering historical bloom occurrences, water circulation patterns, pollution sources and the influence of oxygen minimum zones when selecting sites. Continuous monitoring of dissolved oxygen, temperature, salinity, chlorophyll and other water-quality indica-

tors can provide early warnings of bloom development.

Aquaculture facilities should also establish emergency response measures, including reducing feeding, increasing aeration or oxygen supply, improving water exchange and relocating stock when necessary. Prof. Dobretsov further emphasised the importance of stronger collaboration among research institutions, government agencies and industry to improve harmful algal bloom forecasting, develop more effective treatment technologies and strengthen mitigation strategies.

The project has resulted in four publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and 10 presentations at international conferences. Three workshops have also been organised on harmful algal blooms, sea gliders and oceanography.

The research team was led by Prof. Dobretsov as principal investigator, with Dr. Gerd Bruss as co-principal investigator. Other members included Dr. Khalid Al Hashmi, Dr. Aisha Al Wahaibi, Dr. Ahmed Sana and Dr. Talal Etri.

IN COOPERATION WITH ILO

Social Protection Fund organises a dialogue with diplomatic missions

MUSCAT: The Social Protection Fund, in cooperation with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), organised the first session of a series of social dialogues regarding social insurance programmes within the social protection system for non-Omani workers. The session saw the participation of representatives from diplomatic missions, the Ministry of Labour, and the Foreign Ministry.

The initiative aims to enhance knowledge regarding the development and improvement of the social protection system in the Sultanate of Oman. It also seeks to activate coordination among institutions and relevant authorities concerned with supporting non-Omani workers by holding periodic meetings to exchange information and expertise and to enrich social dialogue. This contributes to bridging the information related to social insurance programmes stipulated in the law and procedures on the one hand, and the actual experiences of non-Omani workers on the other, in order to identify practical measures to enhance their actual utilisation of the social protection system.

Non-Omani workers constitute a large percentage of the workforce in the Sultanate of Oman. As the gradual implementation to improve and develop the social protection system in the Sultanate of Oman progresses, the importance of providing clear guidelines and enhancing effective coordination emerges to ensure their ability to benefit from the available protections.

The first session included an introductory presentation on the social protection system for non-Omani workers, followed by a interactive discussion addressing the experiences of diplomatic missions in this field. The dialogue provided a safe space to exchange views and experiences openly and constructively regarding frequent inquiries and common cases, alongside the administrative challenges and policy-related obstacles faced by diplomatic missions when providing assistance to non-Omani workers.

Diplomatic missions undertake an important role in connecting workers with the relevant institutions. Their direct experience in dealing with them allows for monitoring the difficulties they face,



whether regarding understanding eligibility conditions, obtaining required documents, completing procedures, or following up on claims for entitlements. Discussing these experiences collectively will contribute to uncovering re-

curring challenges and patterns, and utilising them to develop procedures and improvements that benefit a broader category of non-Omani workers.

The outcomes of these dialogues will be employed to support the So-

cial Protection Fund and relevant institutions in implementing continuous improvement and development programmes and addressing any administrative challenges. The initiative also seeks to distinguish between challenges that can

be addressed by providing clearer information or improving institutional coordination, and those that require modifying procedures or considering solutions at the public policy level.

The International Labour Or-

ganization has supported the process of developing and improving the social protection system in the Sultanate of Oman through technical cooperation based on international labor standards. The support for these social dialogues comes within the framework of the ILO's "STREAM" programme, which works to expand the scope of social protection to include non-Omani workers and their families along migration corridors between South Asia and the GCC countries. The organisation will contribute to providing advice and technical inputs, facilitating dialogue sessions, and assisting in documenting recurring challenges, lessons learned, and agreed-upon follow-up actions.

It is scheduled that this phase will include holding quarterly sessions combining technical presentations, facilitated discussions, and question-and-answer sessions, to be supported by reference documents and specialised technical briefings. The long-term vision of this initiative is to establish a sustainable platform for dialogue and coordination led by the Social Protection Fund, based on the achieved results and the consensus reached among the partners. — ONA

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Financial guarantee aims to raise reliability of recruitment agencies

< FROM A1 Also the framework requires the owner of the establishment or one of the partners be dedicated full-time to managing the activity and registered with the Ministry of Labour as an employer, alongside registration with the Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises Development and the submission of a financial guarantee amounting to OMR5,000 to be deposited in the Ministry of Labour's own account. The financial guarantee aims to raise the reliability of recruitment offices and to make it available for fulfilling the office's contractual obligations and protecting the rights of employers and workers in the event of any breach of obligations. The framework also obliges the

office to provide suitable premises for practising the activity and appropriate housing for workers and to comply with occupational safety and health requirements, in a manner that contributes to raising the quality of services and enhancing reliability in the recruitment sector. With regard to employers, the framework includes the adoption of unified recruitment contracts approved by the Ministry of Labour, a guarantee of recruitment service for a period of two years, alongside the specification of a clear period for recruiting the worker not exceeding 45 days, thereby enhancing clarity of obligations and raising the efficiency of recruitment procedures. The framework devotes attention to

protecting the rights of workers, as it prohibits the collection of any sums from the worker in return for recruitment and obliges the office to provide housing and care for the worker during the period he remains with it, in addition to mandating the existence of a job offer for the worker prior to recruitment that includes the wage and the nature of the work. It also prohibits the licensee from promoting or offering the services of non-Omani workers, within the framework of organising the practice of the activity and curbing practices that may affect the rights of workers and the integrity of the labour market. The framework includes special regulation for the settlement of disputes among the parties to

The framework includes the adoption of unified recruitment contracts

the relationship, by enabling the disputing parties to resort to the Ministry of Labour to settle the dispute, specifying time periods for handling disputes and ensuring the implementation of financial obligations among the parties, thereby enhancing stability in the contractual relationship and contributing to the speedy resolution of differences.

The framework also strengthens oversight of recruitment offices by monitoring the performance of licensed offices, ensuring their compliance with the rights of employers and workers and establishing regulatory procedures to address violations. The framework includes a set of facilitations for owners of recruitment offices, foremost among them reducing the licensing fee to OMR300 for a period of two years, increasing the number of temporary licences to 25 and the possibility of opening branches for offices after one year has passed from obtaining the licence, with the mandatory appointment of an Omani manager for the new branch. It also includes the distribution

of the study of activity licence applications according to the geographical dimension of the directorates and labour departments affiliated with the Ministry of Labour, in a manner that contributes to organising the licensing process and facilitating procedures related to practising the activity. The framework aims to raise the level of professionalism and reliability in the non-Omani manpower recruitment sector, improve the quality of services provided to the community and enhance a clear and fair contractual relationship between employers, workers and recruitment offices, in support of the stability of the labour market and the raising of confidence in recruitment services. — ONA

OMAN GOLF ASSOCIATION

These victories are the result of determination, sacrifice, discipline

< FROM A1 The national team that participated in the championship included Ahmed Al Wahaibi, Adam Al Barwani, You-suf Al Rumhy, Ibrahim Riyaz, Taimur Al Busaidi, Mohammed Al Junaidi, and Elias Al Junaidi. Speaking to Times of Oman, OGA's Faiz Mohammed said: "This is a historic day in the annals of Oman golf. Three medals including two gold medals is an unforgettable achievement." He added: "This is a new chapter for Oman's golf and we would like to congratulate our heroes and wish them all success ahead." "Our players have raised the Oman flag with pride and shown the Arab world that Oman is a rising golf nation," the senior OGA official said. Faiz Mohammed added: "These victories are more than sporting achievements. They are the result of determination, sacrifice, discipline, and an unbreakable belief in what we can achieve as



changes at the Oman Golf Association, said: "This is only the beginning of a new era for Oman golf. Our ambition has no limits, and our journey towards greater international success has only just begun. We came with a dream here in Cairo and we competed with pride. We return home with golden history." For his part, OGA secretary and national teams' director Al Jhdhamy, said the results will "enhance the confidence in our players and also gives motivation to other golfers." He added: "We aspire to build on this achievement by continuing to pay attention to age groups, providing training and competitive participation opportunities, and linking the acquired experiences to the needs of each golfer. Our goal is for these talents to develop gradually and to possess the qualities that qualify them to maintain their competitive presence and achieve better results in future competitions."

a nation. My congratulations and appreciation also go to our coaches, families, and everyone who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this achievement possible. Today, we celebrate history. Tomorrow, we aim even higher." Faiz Mohammed, who has been one of the key drivers in bringing

SULTANATE OF OMAN
MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH, Muscat, hereby give notice of tenders for the following projects:

No.	Tender	Project Category	Last day to purchase tender documents	Last date of tender submission
1	ELECTRONIC SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF SCOREBOARD TO FOOTBALL STADIUM AT SUR, SUHAR, IBRI AND NIZWA SPORTS COMPLEX	SUPPLY	25/10/2026	23/11/2026
2	Design, Supply, installation and commissioning The lighting system to sports stadiums Sultan Qaboos sports complex at Bousher , Seeb , Sohar , Sur	SUPPLY		
3	THE 13TH OMANI SONG FESTIVAL	SERVICE	14/10/2026	26/10/2026

Companies, which are registered with the Tender Board and engaged in same category with experience in and same Grade as noted above, can obtain the Tender Documents at the Tender Board E-tendering digital portal link (<http://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>)
The last date of tender submission on above E-tendering site

INTERNAL TENDER COMMITTEE OF MINISTRY OF CULTURE, SPORTS and YOUTH
Any participants have doubt in adopting e-tendering can contact over the phone 24402200 or through email etenderhd@ita.gov.om

Masin Launches Agentic Artificial Intelligence for Construction Contracts in Oman



A contract engineer with twelve years' experience that works 24x7: upload the project, and Masin AI reads every document, tracks every notice, drafts every claim. You only review.



Muscat - Masin AI has launched in Oman the first agentic artificial intelligence platform built specifically for construction contracts and claims, bringing to the Sultanate's project owners, contractors and consultants what the company describes as a contract engineer with twelve years' experience who never sleeps. A large project produces thousands of letters, emails, notices and reports by its second year. Nobody reads all of them. Notices are missed, entitlements lapse, and claims are reconstructed months

later from memory. Masin AI is designed to end that. The project record is uploaded once, and the platform reads everything against the executed contract, continuously, as new documents arrive. What comes back is finished work. The Contract Dashboard shows every open delay risk, notice requirement, claim opportunity and compliance issue, each traced to the letter that gave rise to it, with deadlines counted down from the record itself. The email module reads the project inbox as the contract sees it, recognising that a routine

drawing transmittal is in fact an instruction with a twenty-eight day notice window, and drafts the reply with clause citations for the contract manager to approve. It never sends on its own. The project dashboard turns daily, weekly and monthly progress reports into live schedule and cost performance, and the delay and quantum modules establish who caused a delay and what it is worth, from the programme and the cost ledger rather than from estimates. The result is a shift from reactive to proactive contract

management. Instead of discovering a missed notice when the time bar is raised, or testing an eighteen-month-old claim over two months, a contracts team sees the issue the week it occurs and decides what to do. On Masin AI's own benchmark, a claim report that once took three people eighteen days is produced in two days, with a single reviewer. The platform was developed with more than 250 claims consultants, planners, contract engineers and construction lawyers, drawing on the records of over 1,000 pro-

jects across forty countries, and trained on the FIDIC and NEC contract forms and the SCL Delay and Disruption Protocol. Every finding is cited to a source document and page. Customer data is encrypted, access is audited, and documents are never used to train the models. It supports contracts based on Oman's standard conditions and is applied within the framework of Omani law. Masin AI has been installed and working successfully with some of the largest contractors in Oman on their live projects. This solution

is deployed on live projects for leading construction and infrastructure organisations across India. With Oman's Vision 2040 pipeline bringing more contracts, larger records and more parties than at any point in the Sultanate's history, the aim for Masin AI is simple: "The documents already hold the answers. For the first time, someone is reading all of them proactively and telling you before it is too late."

Organisations can request a demonstration on their own project correspondence.



Oman affirms importance of education and culture for consolidating peace

Oman’s Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO affirmed the Sultanate of Oman’s steadfast commitment to support multilateral international action

PARIS: The Sultanate of Oman has affirmed that the concept of “investing in people through education, culture and knowledge” constitutes a solid foundation for building sustainable peace. Oman also underscored the importance of enhancing international cooperation to protect cultural heritage, develop education systems and support communities affected by crises and conflicts.

A statement to this effect was delivered by Amna bint Salim Al Balushi, Permanent Delegate of the Sultanate of Oman to the UNESCO, during the 225th session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), being held in Paris, France, from 5 to 20 October 2026.

Oman’s Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO affirmed the Sultan-



ate of Oman’s steadfast commitment to support multilateral international action. In her speech, she recalled the historic visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to UNESCO headquarters in June 2026. She pointed out that the Royal visit embodied Oman’s deep conviction in the importance of investing in people as a fundamental pillar for achieving development and realising sustainable peace that is based on education, culture and knowledge.

Speaking about the conservation of cultural heritage, Oman’s Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO highlighted the launch of UNESCO-Sultan Haitham Prize for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. She described the award as a significant Omani contribution to international efforts aimed to protect living heritage and enable communities to preserve their cultural legacy and pass it onwards to future genera-

tions. In this context, she expressed the Sultanate of Oman’s pride in supporting the “World Heritage Capacity-Building Programme” that was launched in several East African nations in cooperation with the UNESCO. She observed that the strategic programme contributed to enhancing national capacities and supporting efforts to showcase rich African heritage sites and secure their registration in the World Heritage List.

Amna bint Salim Al Balushi also affirmed the Sultanate of Oman’s integration of technologies of artificial intelligence (AI) into the educational process. She highlighted Oman’s active participation in international meetings to shape the post-2030 education agenda—notably through the country’s membership in the SDG 4-Education 2030 High-Level Steering Committee, noting that Oman’s participation in such meetings affirms its keenness to keep pace with global

future developments in the education sector.

She also referred to the establishment of the “UNESCO Chair on Waste-to-Fuel Innovations at Muscat University”, bringing the total number of UNESCO Chairs in the Sultanate of Oman to nine.

Oman’s Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO also stressed the need to enhance UNESCO’s role in supporting the sectors of education and culture in conflict-affected areas. She commended the UNESCO’s efforts valuable response to challenges.

In her speech, Oman’s Permanent Delegate to the UNESCO also highlighted the Sultanate of Oman’s international initiative codenamed “Muscat Plan” as a vital framework for fostering dialogue, addressing conflicts and consolidating social cohesion. In addition, she reiterated the Sultanate of Oman’s support for the “UNESCO 80” initiative. — **ONA**



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Electricity projects worth OMR5.07mn under progress



KHASAB: Nama Electricity Distribution Company continues to implement a package of developmental electrical projects in the Governorate of Musandam.

These projects aim to improve the performance of the electrical network, provide the necessary reserve capacity and operational flexibility, raise efficiency, reduce losses, and comply with network security standards across the various wilayats of the governorate.

Eng. Mohammed Rashid Al Qari, Director General of Major Projects at Nama Electricity Distribution Company, stated that the total cost of the projects currently underway and planned for implementation during the current year 2026 in the Musandam Governorate amounts to approximately OMR5.07 million.

He added in a statement to Oman News Agency (ONA) that the implementation of electrical projects in the Musandam Governorate aims to upgrade the infrastructure and develop the services provided to citizens, various sectors, and projects in all areas of the governorate. This supports achieving development in the governorate’s wilayats and meets

the needs of population growth and citizens’ aspirations for electricity services.

He pointed out that implementing projects in the governorate requires prior planning to overcome logistical and geographical challenges during implementation, given the region’s topography.

He clarified that these projects come within the developmental plans implemented by the company to enhance the efficiency of the electrical network and increase its absorptive capacity. This keeps pace with the urban expansion and population growth witnessed by the wilayats of the Musandam Governorate, as well as the growth in tourism and economic activity during the recent period, given the stunning nature and economic elements of the governorate.

Al Qari mentioned that these projects will enhance the stability of the electrical network and improve the quality of supply in various sectors, contributing to the development of infrastructure and achieving economic and social development in the governorate. — **ONA**

TWO-DAY WORKSHOP

Environmental management of mining activities reviewed

MUSCAT: A workshop titled “Sustainable Crushers, Environmental Policies and Standards, and Best Practices,” commenced yesterday in the Governorate of Muscat.

The workshop reviewed national, regional, and international experiences in the environmental management of mining activities.

The event, organised by the En-

vironment Authority under the auspices of Eng. Sulaiman Nasser Al Akhzami, Vice Chairman of the Environment Authority, aims to promote sustainable practices in the crushers and quarries sector, reduce environmental impacts, elevate operational efficiency, and foster responsible use of natural resources. The two-day workshop, featuring the participation of more

than 100 experts, specialists, and representatives from government entities, the private sector, civil society, and the research sector, alongside several companies operating in the mining, crushers, and quarries sector, discusses environmental policies, legislation, and standards regulating crusher activities.

The workshop seeks to reach

practical outcomes supporting the development of the crushers and quarries sector and enhancing its environmental and operational practices.

The workshop featured three main pillars: the first addressed frameworks, policies, legislation, and procedures related to mining and crushing activities.

— **ONA**



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PRE-26-058	Supply of Paint Materials for MM (Unit Rate)	19/10/2026	26/10/2026
PRS-26-059	Supply of Materials for Oman Botanical Garden (Unit Rate)	19/10/2026	26/10/2026
PRS-26-060	Supply of Irrigation Tanks & Pumps (Unit Rate)	29/10/2026	19/11/2026
PRE-26-151	Maintenance of Electrical Cable at Amerat & Qurriyat	29/10/2026	19/11/2026

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AL DAKHILIYAH GOVERNORATE

Forum reviews 16 innovative, improvement initiatives in school health services

MANAH: The Directorate General of Health Services in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate organised on Sunday at Oman Across Ages Museum in the Wilayat of Manah, the second forum to enhance school health programmes titled “Ta’zeez” (Enhancement).

The programme aims at disseminating a culture of quality and innovation in school health services, motivating health cadres to provide practical initiatives and solutions contributing to the development of health programs, and strengthening partnership and integration between the health and education sectors to serve students’ health and provide a safe and healthy school environment.

The forum was held under the auspices of Dr. Ahmed Salim Al Mandhari, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Health Planning and Regulation.

The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Health Planning and Regulation stated that the development and improvement initiatives showcased at the accompanying exhibition of the forum in its second edition in Al Dakhiliyah Governorate reflect the level of cooperation and integration between the health and education sectors and various government and private institutions, contributing to enhancing health awareness and providing a safe and healthy school environment for students.

He added that these initiatives contribute to consolidating the concept of prevention and health promotion as a primary priority, alongside focusing on addressing



medical conditions when they occur, emphasising that maintaining health is a shared responsibility not limited to health sector workers, but extends to educational institutions and members of society across its various segments, as well as government and private institutions.

Dr. Mohammed Hamad Al Toubi, Director of the Department of Disease Control and Prevention, affirmed that the forum comes as an extension of the efforts exerted to elevate the level of school and university healthcare services and create a platform for exchanging expertise and successful experiences among specialists and health cadres, thereby contributing to developing health programs and initiatives and improving the quality of services provided to students.

He added that the Ministry of Health pays great attention to school health programs as one of the fundamental pillars for promoting students’ health and safety, pointing out that the forum represents an opportunity

to present ideas and suggestions, discuss challenges, and find practical, applicable solutions, leading to outcomes and recommendations that contribute to enhancing the physical, psychological, and social health of students and the school community, and providing a healthy, safe, and sustainable educational environment.

He explained that launching the “Ghars” (Planting) initiative came as a translation of these directions, as it is one of the initiatives aimed at encouraging health cadres to innovate and develop school health services and programs, noting that the initiative witnessed during the 2025/2026 academic year the submission of 16 innovative and improvement entries, including ideas and projects aimed at elevating the efficiency and quality of health services, and addressing a number of health challenges in the school environment through innovative solutions and modern, sustainable methods. — **ONA**

MEDICAL CHECKS



Pope Leo XIV to undergo surgery to remove lump

VATICAN: Pope Leo XIV said Sunday that he will undergo surgery this week to remove a lump on his lung.

“During recent medical checks, a nodule on my lung was found. It has been detected at a very early stage and is very localized,” the 71-year-old said during his weekly address in St Peter’s Square in the Vatican.

“The doctors believe it would be right to intervene and so, following their advice, I have decided to have the operation to remove it. The operation is already planned in the coming days,” he added.

What do we know about the pope’s condition?

This is his first major health scare since the 71-year-old American became pope in 2025.

A lung nodule is a small, contained lesion that is smaller than 3 centimeters (1 inch) and can be benign.

According to the American Thoracic Society, fewer than 5% of lung nodules turn out to be cancerous.

The American Cancer Society says the nodules sometimes appear on CT scans of the chest or abdomen during searches for trauma or lung infections that are unrelated to cancer screenings.

Leo is younger than most popes. His predecessor, Francis, was five years older when he assumed the role, while Francis’ predecessor, Benedict XVI, was 78 at the start of his tenure.

Leo is not known to have had any previous health issues, and leads a relatively active lifestyle. - **bw**

Over 130 dead after migrant boat capsizes off Djibouti coast

At least 84 people remained missing in what is thought to be one of the deadliest shipwrecks incident

YEMEN: The United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) on Sunday said that at least 139 people were killed when a migrant boat carrying an estimated 305 people capsized off the coast of Djibouti in northeastern Africa.

At least 84 people remained missing in what is thought to be

one of the deadliest shipwrecks yet on the popular but perilous crossing from the Horn of Africa to the Arabian Peninsula, where many migrants seek work in rich Gulf nations.

In a statement, IOM Chief of Mission in Djibouti Alexandre Coissac called the loss of life “devastating,” adding, “This tragedy is

a stark reminder of the dangers faced by migrants along this migration corridor as they seek economic opportunities” by trying to cross the Bab el-Mandeb Strait to Yemen and reach Gulf countries.

“Poverty, insecurity and the growing impacts of climate change drive many to undertake this journey, despite mounting instability across the Middle East,” according to the IOM.

IOM representatives said, “Djiboutian authorities are continuing search and rescue operations as fears grow for those still missing.”

Djibouti to Yemen a dangerous crossing

The IOM says it has detected

more than 20,000 crossings from Djibouti to Yemen — which is currently in the middle of a raging civil war — in the past month. More than 900 migrants were killed attempting the passage in 2025.

The IOM says most of those attempting to cross are from Ethiopian and Somalia.

The 80 survivors from Saturday night’s capsizing were all Ethiopian nationals.

The IOM on Sunday urged “donors and partners to strengthen support for Djibouti’s response, including search and rescue operations and life-saving assistance.”

Of the bodies so far recovered, 52 were men, 42 were women and 15 were children. - **bw**





Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma



Social Impact Awards 2026



جوائز بسمة
Jawaz Basma

Al Baraka Oilfield Services Wins In-Country Value (ICV) in Oil & Gas Award at Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma 2026



Al Baraka Oilfield Services was felicitated with the 'In-Country Value (ICV) in Oil & Gas Award' at Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma Social Impact Awards 2026. Organised by Muscat Media Group, publisher of Times of Oman and Al Shabiba, and managed by TEvents, the awards recognised organisations, initiatives and individuals creating meaningful social, environmental and economic impact across Oman. The evening culminated in the presentation of 22 awards across diverse areas of community and social impact.

Al Baraka Oilfield Services was recognised for its commitment to strengthening Omanisation, developing national talent and creating sustainable career pathways within the oil and gas sector. Through its innovative KAFU Programme, the company is helping Omani employees transition from field driving positions into

semi-technical roles, equipping them with the skills and practical experience required to advance their careers.

The KAFU Programme is a structured, one-year development initiative combining on-the-job training, classroom learning, English language development and specialised technical training. Participants gain practical exposure to areas including mechanical and electrical maintenance, field operations, logistics, warehousing and health and safety, supported by mentorship, competency assessments and continuous performance evaluation.

By creating opportunities for Omani employees to progress into roles such as assistant technicians, junior field operators and maintenance assistants, the initiative aims to build a sustainable pipeline of skilled national talent while reducing dependence on expatriate junior technical personnel. The programme also supports employee retention, professional development and long-term workforce sustainability within the industry.

Through its focus on practical skills development, career progression and local workforce empowerment, Al Baraka Oilfield Services continues to demonstrate how businesses can contribute to In-Country Value creation and Oman's national workforce development objectives, in alignment with Oman Vision 2040.

Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma 2026, organised by Muscat Media Group and managed by TEvents, celebrates organisations and individuals whose initiatives contribute to community development, healthcare, education, youth empowerment, sustainability, inclusion and social progress across the Sultanate.

Oman Housing Bank Wins National Leadership in Housing Empowerment & Development Award at Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma 2026



Oman Housing Bank was felicitated with the 'National Leadership in Housing Empowerment & Development Award' at Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma Social Impact Awards 2026. Organised by Muscat Media Group, publisher of Times of Oman and Al Shabiba, and managed by TEvents, the awards recognised organisations, initiatives and individuals creating meaningful social, environmental and economic impact across Oman. The evening culminated in the presentation of 22 awards across diverse areas of community and social impact.

Oman Housing Bank was recognised for its commitment to housing empowerment, financial accessibility and sustainable community development through its innovative Iskan Programme. Launched in January 2024, the programme represents an integrated approach to supporting homeownership among Omani citizens by combining housing finance solutions, digital transformation and strategic partnerships.

Through the Iskan Programme, the Bank has supported 9,653 Omani families, facilitating housing financing amounting to approximately OMR 465.78 million. The initiative has also introduced digital solutions through the Iskan Platform, simplifying access to housing finance services while strengthening collaboration with property developers and financial institutions to create greater opportunities for homeownership.

By making housing finance more accessible and supporting families in achieving their long-term housing aspirations, Oman Housing Bank continues to play a significant role in promoting family stability, strengthening communities and advancing national housing development objectives. Its efforts reflect a sustained commitment to inclusive growth and the aspirations of Oman Vision 2040.

Shabiba Jawa'iz Basma 2026, organised by Muscat Media Group and managed by TEvents, celebrates organisations and individuals whose initiatives contribute to community development, healthcare, education, youth empowerment, sustainability, inclusion and social progress across the Sultanate.



SPORTS

MESSI IN COPA LIBERTADORES?

“We are ready for anything, and he certainly is,” says Inter Miami boss

González said it would be amazing to see Messi compete in the tournament before the Argentine striker retires from club football.



CUSA MIAMI: Inter Miami coach Cristian González does not rule out the possibility of legendary striker Lionel Messi featuring in the Copa Libertadores, the annual continental club competition organised by the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL), saying the possibility has been explored for several years. González said it would be amazing to see Messi compete in the tournament before the Argentine striker retires from club football, with the

continental title still missing from his illustrious trophy cabinet. The coach was speaking to the media after Inter Miami registered a 4-0 win over DC United at home.

ending a run of four matches without a victory. The result leaves Miami 14 points behind table-toppers Nashville SC, who have 63 points. Messi starred in the victory, scor-

ing twice in his first appearance since returning from international duty. He opened his account in the 47th minute with a close-range finish assisted by Luis Suárez be-

fore adding his second goal in the 60th minute.

The Argentine forward has now recorded goal contributions in 10 consecutive Major League Soccer (MLS) matches for the first time. He also leads the Golden Boot race with 23 goals and has registered 13 assists in 2026.

The possibility of Messi playing in the Copa Libertadores resurfaced after CONMEBOL president Alejandro Dominguez jokingly raised the prospect of the 39-year-old featuring in the competition before retiring from club football.

Reacting to the suggestion, Gonzalez said the idea was not new and that discussions surrounding the possibility had been ongoing for years.

"It does not surprise me, because I already knew about [Dominguez mentioning it to Messi]. Besides, my understanding is that we have been exploring this possibility for a few years now," Gonzalez said, as quoted by ESPN.

"Obviously, we would love it because it would be amazing; plus, as you said, it is one of the few trophies Leo is missing, so I think that really got him excited too. We will see, the decision-making process is a bit of

a formality at this point, but we are ready for anything, and he certainly is," he added.

The coach also spoke about Messi's influence on the team, highlighting the Argentine's high standards and his insistence on continuous improvement from everyone at the club.

Gonzalez said Messi's competitive attitude pushed the players and coaching staff to maintain their performance levels and avoid complacency. "The levels Messi demands are incredible," he said.

"He pushes us to give our all. He even gets angry when a play does not come off right. He demands so much of us that none of us can afford to slack off. It constantly challenges us to improve, as a club, as a staff, as a coaching team, and as colleagues," the Inter Miami coach added.

Messi, widely regarded as one of football's greatest players, has won numerous domestic and international honours throughout his career. A potential appearance in the Copa Libertadores would add another significant chapter to his club career, although his participation in the tournament remains a possibility rather than a confirmed development. **ANI**

CUE SPORTS

India finishes on top with 13 medals at Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships

AHMEDABAD: India finished on top with 13 medals, comprising three gold, five silver and five bronze, at the Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships 2026, which concluded at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad on Saturday.

Organised by Apex Sports Promotion and hosted by the Billiards & Snooker Federation of India (BSFI), the Championships were held under the endorsement of the World Confederation of Billiards Sports (WCBS) and Commonwealth Sport. The medal ceremony was graced by Indian Olympic

Association (IOA) President PT Usha, who attended the occasion as the Chief Guest.

India's campaign was headlined by Aditya Snehal Mehta, who won gold in Men's Snooker after defeating fellow Indian Dhvaj Haria 3-0 in an all-Indian final. Anupama Ramachandran also clinched gold in Women's English Billiards, overcoming compatriot Revanna Umadevi 1-0 to claim the title. Rayaan Razmi added another gold for India in Men's English Billiards, defeating Siddharth Sailesh Parikh in the all-Indian final.

In Men's Snooker, Hania finished with the silver medal, while Laxman Singh Rawat claimed bronze alongside Sri Lanka's Mohamed Thaha Irshath. India's women's snooker contingent also enjoyed a strong showing, with Keerthana Pandian winning silver after losing 0-3 to Great Britain's Rebecca Kenna in the final. Ishika Shah and Shruthi Lakshminarayana secured bronze medals to add to India's tally.

In Women's English Billiards, Umadevi took silver following her final against Ramachandran, while Great Britain's Mhairi Roberta

Mackay and Australia's Julie Watson claimed bronze medals. India also secured a silver and bronze in Men's Heyball, with Paras Gupta finishing runner-up after a closely contested 5-6 defeat to South Africa's Jason Theron. Uzair Khan claimed bronze alongside Malaysia's Mohd Hassan.

In Men's 10-Ball Pool, Great Britain's Mark Foster claimed the title with a 6-3 victory over compatriot Sheridan Burmester. India's Divya Sharma secured bronze alongside Great Britain's Paddy McLoughlin. In Women's 10-Ball Pool, Austral-

ia's Meng-Hsia Hung won gold after edging South Africa's Elzette Joen 5-4 in the final, while Singapore's Neo Yue Xuan and Canada's Nathalie Chabot claimed bronze medals.

Great Britain also won titles in Women's Snooker and Men's Blackball, with Kenna defeating Pandian 3-0 and Lee Shepherd overcoming South Africa's Shaun Martheze 7-3. Rwanda's Frederic Ngaboyisonga and Namibia's Curtis Izaaks secured bronze in Men's Blackball. In Women's Blackball, Uganda's Naiga Rukia defeated South Africa's Prudence Nkosi 5-3.

to win gold, while Australia's Kolbe Poole and Great Britain's Emma Cunningham claimed bronze.

In Women's Heyball, Great Britain's Kelly Fisher claimed the title after defeating Uganda's Rashidani Mutesi in the final. South Africa's Marina Jacobs and Great Britain's Mary Talbot secured the bronze medals. The Commonwealth Cue Sports Championships brought together 144 players from more than 40 nations for four days of competition across English Billiards, Snooker, Heyball, 10-Ball Pool and Blackball.

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BELGIUM'S CREDIT RATING

Credit rating agency Moody's has affirmed Belgium's A1 rating, avoiding a further downgrade as the federal government prepares for negotiations on its 2027 budget, aiming to achieve savings of more than €10 billion.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSX index closed at 7,852.11 points, up by 0.25% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.30% at 642.68 points. Muscat Gases, up 6.92%, was the top gainer while, Al Hassan Engineering, down 16.67%, was the top loser. > **B2**

NEWS ANALYSIS
China's trade strength rooted in competitiveness

BEIJING: China has reaffirmed its stance on its foreign exchange policy amid increased discussions over the yuan's valuation, as solid facts and figures support the view that the country's export strength is rooted in its industrial competitiveness rather than currency valuation.

China has neither the need nor the intention to gain trade advantages through currency devaluation, the People's Bank of China (PBOC) said in a policy statement released, stressing that the country has never resorted to competitive devaluation.

The statement came as some countries pointed to currency valuation as a cause of trade imbalances, thereby oversimplifying the dynamics between exchange rates and trade.

The conventional view that currency appreciation weakens export competitiveness largely reflects a short-term and static perspective. Over a longer horizon, competitiveness is shaped by much more than exchange rates, analysts have said.

This is particularly evident in China's case. The international competitiveness of Chinese products has at times continued to strengthen even as the RMB appreciated. From 2020 to 2021, the RMB appreciated by about 9 percent against the US dollar, while China's share of global exports increased by 1.7 percentage points in this period, according to the PBOC.

In 2022, by contrast, the RMB depreciated by more than 8 percent against the dollar, while China's share of global exports fell by 0.7 percentage points, PBOC said.

These figures showed that China's imports and exports are relatively insensitive to exchange-rate movements, while neither its goods trade surplus nor its current-account surplus has a simple linear relationship with the RMB exchange rate, said Guan Tao, chief economist at Huafu Securities.

Attributing China's export strength primarily to currency depreciation or other purported factors including "overcapacity" reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the sophistication and competitiveness of the country's industrial sector. China's trade growth is underpinned by its vast domestic market, comprehensive industrial and supply chains, well-developed infrastructure, abundant and highly skilled workforce, and steadily improving research and innovation capabilities. — **Xinhua**

Total electricity generation in Oman increases by 4.3%

The latest preliminary data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information indicated that the Governorate of Muscat recorded the highest growth rate in total electricity generation at 204.8 percent



MUSCAT: The total electricity generation in the Sultanate of Oman increased by 4.3 percent by the end of August 2026, reaching 37,481.8 gigawatt-hours (GWh), compared to 35,935.3 GWh during the corresponding period in 2025.

The latest preliminary data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) indicated that the Governorate of Muscat recorded the highest growth rate in total electricity generation at 204.8 percent, followed by the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah at 44.1 percent, the Governorate of Al Wusta at 8.4 percent, the Governorates of

North Al Batinah, South Al Batinah, and Al Dhahirah at 5.5 percent, and the Governorate of Dhofar at 4.6 percent.

In contrast, the total electricity generation in the Governorates of North Al Sharqiyah and South Al Sharqiyah decreased by 16.4 percent, while the total electricity production in the Governorate of Musandam stabilised at 376.0 GWh, with no significant change compared to the corresponding period in 2025.

Regarding net electricity generation, which includes purchases by the Oman Power and Water Procurement Company

and purchases by the Rural Areas Electricity Company by region, the data clarified an increase of 4.6 percent by the end of August 2026, reaching 36,463.9 GWh, compared to 34,871.8 GWh during the corresponding period in 2025.

The Governorate of Muscat recorded the highest growth rate in net electricity generation, amounting to 204.4 percent, followed by the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah at 44.2 percent, the Governorate of Al Wusta at 9.1 percent, the Governorate of Dhofar at 7.6 percent, and the Governorates of North Al Batinah, South Al Batinah, and Al Dhahirah at 5.4

percent. Conversely, net electricity generation in the Governorates of North Al Sharqiyah and South Al Sharqiyah declined by 16.6 percent, while net production in the Governorate of Musandam reached 368.0 GWh, recording a change rate of 0.0 percent.

On the water front, total production decreased by 3.5 percent by the end of August 2026, reaching 330,649.3 thousand cubic metres, compared to 342,709.7 thousand cubic metres during the corresponding period in 2025.

At the governorate level, water production in the Governorate of Muscat decreased by 6.2 percent,

dropping from 136,574.7 thousand cubic metres by the end of August 2025 to 128,068.6 thousand cubic metres by the end of August 2026.

Water production in other governorates also declined by 3.4 percent, reaching 149,899.6 thousand cubic metres, compared to 155,193.3 thousand cubic metres during the corresponding period in 2025. In contrast, water production in the Governorate of Dhofar increased by 3.4 percent, reaching 52,681.2 thousand cubic metres during the period from January to August 2026, compared to 50,941.7 thousand cubic metres. — **ONA**

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

RBI may raise repo rate by 75-100 bps in current cycle

NEW DELHI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) could raise the repo rate by 75-100 basis points in the current tightening cycle, with inflation expected to remain elevated before easing from the next financial year, according to an SBI Capital Markets report.

SBI Caps said gradual rate increases remain the base case, although a larger hike in December 2026 cannot be ruled out depend-

ing on inflation readings for September and October.

The report said the Monetary Policy Committee's 25-basis-point repo rate hike and its shift in stance from "Neutral" to "Calibrated Tightening" signal a stronger focus on containing inflation. It expects the policy cycle to turn around in the first quarter of FY28 as the growth-inflation balance evolves.

Consumer inflation is expected to peak in the third quarter of FY27, while wholesale price inflation could begin easing from March 2027 as favourable base effects set in.

Consumer price inflation is likely to trend below 5 per cent year-on-year beyond QIFY28, the report said.

India's economic growth has remained strong, with real gross

domestic product (GDP) expanding 7.8 per cent year-on-year in QIFY27, exceeding market expectations of 7.1 per cent. Manufacturing grew 9.2 per cent, while gross fixed capital formation rose 11.9 per cent during the quarter.

However, the brokerage flagged risks to consumption in the second half of FY27, including rising borrowing costs, subdued rural sentiment and weaker kharif sow-

ing. It also warned that prolonged geopolitical conflicts and crude oil prices around USD 100 per barrel could sustain cost pressures.

The report noted benchmark 10-year government bond yields had risen around 70 basis points in calendar year 2026, with yields likely to remain elevated until geopolitical tensions ease and inflationary pressures moderate.

— **ANI**

FOR RETAIL AND CORPORATE INVESTORS

Bank Muscat launches Sharia Money Market Fund

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate of Oman, announced the launch of the Bank Muscat Sharia Money Market Fund, an open-ended investment fund registered with the Financial Services Authority (FSA) of Oman. The Fund offers an opportunity to corporates, institutions and individuals to manage short-term and surplus liquidity while generating optimum returns, preserving capital and maintaining daily liquidity in a shari'a-compliant manner. The Fund invests in a diversified portfolio of high-quality, low-risk Sharia-compliant fixed income instruments across Oman, the GCC and international markets, including deposits with banks and financial institutions, sukuk, murabaha, wakala, call accounts, and commercial papers.

The subscription period of the New Fund Offer (NFO) opened on October 11th and will run until October 22nd, 2026. The Fund is being offered at an initial price of 100 baizas per unit. It is open to both retail and corporate investors with a minimum subscription of RO 100, with no cap on the investment amount. Furthermore, there is no subscription or redemption fees. Investors have the flexibility to withdraw their investments, fully or partially, together with the returns. It also offers daily liquidity with no minimum holding period after the initial subscription period, allowing investors to access their investments at any time, with



the flexibility to fully or partially redeem their investments along with the accrued returns. Investors can redeem their investments by submitting a duly completed application form with the Registrar and Transfer Agent of the Fund on any business day by 12:00 p.m. and redemption proceeds will be paid to the investor on the following business day. Applications received after 12:00 p.m. will be deemed as received on the next business day and the redemptions

proceeds will be paid to investors accordingly.

The Fund's Net Asset Value (NAV) will be published daily on the Bank Muscat website and the Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) website, enabling investors to track their investments on a daily basis. Bank Muscat and Meethaq Islamic Banking customers wishing to subscribe during the NFO period can download the application form from Bank Muscat website and submit it at their

nearest Bank Muscat or Meethaq branch. Subscription is also available through Bank Muscat's Internet Banking and Mobile Banking (IBMB) platforms as well as Meethaq Islamic Banking's Mobile Banking application. For any enquiries regarding the Fund, investors can contact the dedicated fund team at assetmanagement@bankmuscat.com.

Bank Muscat acts as the Issue Manager and Investment Manager for the Fund, leveraging over

30 years of expertise in managing various asset classes and fixed income instruments. Bank Muscat launched the first money market fund of Oman in 2012 as a conventional open-ended fund. Since then, that fund has posted solid performance by generating attractive returns higher than typical alternatives available for short term investments with relatively lower risk and regular liquidity. The superior performance and growth track record of the fund's AUM are a testimony of continued patronage of its investors.

The fund continues to retain its top position as the largest open-ended money market fund in Oman across all asset classes. We truly believe that Bank Muscat Sharia Money Market Fund will benefit from the overall experience and expertise of the Bank Muscat Asset Management team, and in particular of managing the existing Money Market Fund by Bank Muscat. Meethaq Islamic Banking provides Shari'a governance for the Fund through a robust Shari'a structure and an independent Shari'a Supervisory Board. Bank Muscat, Meethaq Islamic Bank, Horizons Capital and Vision Capital Company have been appointed as Collecting Agents during the NFO period.

On this occasion, Khalifa Abdullah Al Hatmi, Deputy General Manager of Investment Banking & Capital Markets at Bank Muscat, said: "We are proud to launch a new fund, which represents a valu-

able addition to our suite of investment solutions and a strategic step towards enhancing financial inclusion and offering innovative investment tools that meet the needs of diverse investor segments. This launch builds on our market leadership and the trust our customers have placed in us for over 40 years, and reinforces our role as a key enabler of the capital market and asset management business in the Sultanate. We have designed this Fund to be the optimal solution for efficiently managing surplus liquidity. It brings together the three key pillars that investors seek today: capital preservation, stable Shari'a-compliant returns, and liquidity without restrictions or fees. We are confident that, with its professional management and robust Shari'a governance, this Fund will serve as an effective tool for corporates, institutions and individuals to enhance their returns on short term surplus funds, in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 to develop the financial sector and diversify investment instruments."

For further information, investors may refer to the Prospectus of the Fund available on Bank Muscat's website, which contains full details of the Fund including its principal terms and conditions. Investors are also advised to refer to the key risk factors outlined in the Prospectus. It should be noted that returns from mutual funds may be affected by market-related performance factors.

MARKET

MSX Index ends higher

Muscat Gases, up 6.92%, was the top gainer while, Al Hassan Engineering, down 16.67%, was the top loser in yesterday's trading

MUSCAT: The MSX index closed at 7,852.11 points, up by 0.25% from previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.30% at 642.68 points. Muscat Gases, up 6.92%, was the top gainer while, Al Hassan Engineering, down 16.67%, was the top loser. Shares of OQBI were the most active in terms of number of shares traded as well as in terms of turnover.

A total number of 9925 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating turnover of OMR65.49 million, with more than 202.76 million shares changing hands. Out of 71 traded securities, 21 advanced, 25 declined, and 25 remained unchanged. At the session close, GCC & Arab investors were net sellers for OMR957,000 while domestic investors were net buyers for OMR952,000, followed by foreign investors for OMR5,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed at 14,004.09 points, down -0.10%. Prices of National Finance, Takaful Oman, OMINVEST, Al Sharqia Investment, Bank Dhofar were up by 3.74%, 1.70%, 1.21%, 0.98%, 0.45% respectively. Prices of Oman Arab Bank, Al Madina Takaful, Oman United Insurance, Al Madina Investments, Oman &



Emirates Investment were down by 6.08%, 3.51%, 2.44%, 2.35%, 1.60% respectively. Industrial Index closed at 10,205.37 points, down -0.13%. Prices of Al Maha Ceramics, Salalah Mills were up by 3.16%, 1.40% respectively. Prices of Al Hassan Engineering, Al Anwar Ceramics, Raysut Cement, Gulf Mushroom Products, Oman Cables Industry were down by 16.67%, 4.27%, 0.52%, 0.39%, 0.15% respectively. Services Index was down by -0.52% before closing at 3,102.50 points. Prices of Muscat Gases, OQ Gas Networks, Al Jazeera Services, Al Jazeera Services, OQ Exploration & Production were up by 6.92%, 2.62%, 1.17%, 1.17%, 1.00% respectively. Prices of Muscat Desalination, Sembcorp Salalah, Oman Telecom, National Gas, Ooredoo were down by 3.16%, 1.03%, 0.88%, 0.82%, 0.62% respectively.

— United Securities

OMAN STOCKS

MUSCAT
STOCK
EXCHANGE

INDICES						
Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff	Diff%
MSX 30 INDEX	7,852.43	7,810.02	7,852.11	7,832.25	19.86	0.25%
FINANCIAL INDEX	14,027.89	13,966.95	14,004.09	14,017.48	-13.39	-0.10%
Industry Index	10,258.60	10,183.16	10,205.37	10,218.41	-13.04	-0.13%
Services Index	3,119.55	3,087.88	3,102.50	3,118.70	-16.20	-0.52%
MSX Shariah Index	643.40	639.47	642.68	640.75	1.92	0.30%
MSX TR INDEX	12,241.93	12,175.81	12,241.42	12,210.46	30.96	0.25%
FINANCIAL TR IDX	17,246.56	17,171.64	17,217.30	17,233.77	-16.46	-0.10%
INDUSTRIAL TR IDX	13,138.66	13,042.05	13,070.49	13,087.19	-16.70	-0.13%
SERVICES TR IDX	4,306.89	4,263.17	4,283.36	4,305.72	-22.36	-0.52%
FIXED INCOME INDEX	1,291.27	1,291.27	1,291.27	1,291.27	0.00	0.00%

Trading Summary							
Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
202,767,695	65,494,319	9,925	39,916,730,901	21	25	25	71

MSX DAILY BULLETIN AS ON 11/10/2026

SN	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PR.	LAST BID	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000009072	OQ GAS NETWORKS	42,402,513	9,763,042	1,907	0.239	0.237	0.227	0.235	0.229	0.006	2.620	0.235	0.234	0.235	0.100	1,017,696,621
OM0000008694	ABRAJ ENERGY SERVICES	1,983,097	592,519	377	0.434	0.443	0.431	0.440	0.432	0.008	1.852	0.440	0.443	0.440	0.100	338,888,000
OM0000008496	OJ BASE INDUSTRIES (SFP)	46,738,115	12,677,317	2,344	0.270	0.273	0.270	0.273	0.269	0.004	1.487	0.273	0.275	0.273	0.040	844,441,000
OM0000001533	OMINVEST	1,000	417	1	0.417	0.417	0.417	0.417	0.412	0.005	1.214	0.417	0.395	0.417	0.100	468,230,083
OM0000002226	ALJAZEERA SERVICES	100	26	1	0.259	0.259	0.259	0.259	0.256	0.003	1.172	0.259	0.251	0.259	0.100	11,096,335
OM0000007520	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	14,900,359	7,540,631	303	0.501	0.507	0.501	0.507	0.502	0.005	0.996	0.507	0.508	0.507	0.010	4,056,000,000
OM0000002440	AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HO.	10,100	1,041	2	0.105	0.105	0.103	0.103	0.102	0.001	0.980	0.103	0.100	0.112	0.100	9,270,000
OM0000008710	BARKA DESALINATION	39,017	6,541	5	0.167	0.168	0.167	0.168	0.167	0.001	0.599	0.168	0.168	0.168	0.100	12,887,696
OM0000007811	MUSANDAM POWER	2,000	684	1	0.342	0.342	0.342	0.342	0.340	0.002	0.588	0.342	0.332	0.343	0.100	24,073,380
OM0000002549	BANK DHOFAR	470,705	106,823	294	0.223	0.224	0.222	0.224	0.223	0.001	0.448	0.224	0.226	0.224	0.100	680,914,971
OM0000001020	ASYAD SHIPPING	1,345,290	313,061	780	0.234	0.234	0.231	0.234	0.233	0.001	0.429	0.234	0.235	0.234	0.000	1,218,846,162
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	10,387,388	2,846,387	21	0.274	0.276	0.274	0.275	0.274	0.001	0.354	0.275	0.275	0.285	0.100	65,012,750
OM0000001539	DHOFAH INTL DEVELOPMENT & INVEST	70,500	20,797	4	0.294	0.295	0.294	0.295	0.294	0.001	0.340	0.295	0.295	0.295	0.100	146,338,562
OM0000003125	GLOBAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT HO.	100	40	1	0.395	0.395	0.395	0.395	0.394	0.001	0.354	0.395	0.380	0.400	0.100	79,000,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OMAN	106,529	53,265	136	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.100	812,973,178
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	400	298	1	0.645	0.645	0.645	0.645	0.645	0.000	0.000	0.645	0.645	0.645	0.100	213,412,898
OM0000002176	JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	7500	7,011	4	0.934	0.935	0.934	0.935	0.935	0.000	0.000	0.935	0.916	0.935	0.100	116,779,593
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	17,864,675	7,905,246	979	0.443	0.444	0.441	0.443	0.443	0.000	0.000	0.443	0.447	0.443	0.100	3,325,333,898
OM0000002804	ASAFFA FOODS	9,117	6,382	3	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.000	0.000	0.700	0.698	0.700	0.100	84,000,000
OM0000003000	AL MAHA PETROLEUM PRODS MRKTNG	5,913	7,450	2	1.260	1.260	1.260	1.260	1.260	0.000	0.000	1.260	1.260	1.260	0.100	86,940,000
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	45,726,186	8,770,845	1,512	0.192	0.193	0.190	0.192	0.192	0.000	0.000	0.192	0.174	0.192	0.100	1,473,793,969
OM0000003661	VOLTAMP ENERGY	124,716	23,432	32	0.187	0.189	0.187	0.188	0.188	0.000	0.000	0.188	0.188	0.188	0.010	188,000,000
OM0000004248	SMN POWER HOLDING	7,670	1,427	5	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.186	0.000	0.000	0.186	0.180	0.186	0.100	37,132,222
OM0000004925	ALBATINAH POWER	91,756	19,386	18	0.200	0.202	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.100	134,977,486
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	162,490	32,528	24	0.200	0.202	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.200	0.201	0.100	142,881,268
OM0000001707	OMAN CABLES INDUSTRY	1,000	3,445	1	3.445	3.445	3.445	3.445	3.450	-0.005	-0.145	3.445	3.440	3.445	0.100	309,016,500
OM0000002827	GULF MUSHROOM PRODUCTS	997	506	1	0.508	0.508	0.508	0.508	0.510	-0.002	-0.392	0.508	0.500	0.509	0.100	25,573,928
OM0000003969	OOREDOO	22,107	70,850	44	0.322	0.322	0.319	0.319	0.321	-0.002	-0.623	0.319	0.318	0.319	0.100	207,651,209
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	70,393	10,883	13	0.154	0.155	0.154	0.154	0.155	-0.001	-0.645	0.154	0.150	0.154	0.100	944,490,767
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOM	9,121,113	12,434,162	104	1.367	1.367	1.354	1.354	1.366	-0.012	-0.878	1.354	1.354	1.354	0.100	1,015,500,000
OM0000004735	SEMBORP SALALAH	17,552	5,046	11	0.289	0.289	0.287	0.287	0.290	-0.003	-1.034	0.287	0.287	0.292	0.100	273,962,150
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	51,429	4,536	7	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.088	0.089	-0.001	-1.124	0.088	0.088	0.092	0.100	31,339,202
OM0000001681	OMAN EMIRATES HO.	111,000	13,820	13	0.126	0.127	0.123	0.123	0.125	-0.002	-1.600	0.123	0.123	0.123	0.100	15,740,156
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	51,821	16,660	9	0.329	0.329	0.320	0.320	0.328	-0.008	-2.439	0.320	0.319	0.329	0.100	33,600,000
OM0000004788	MADINA TAKAFUL	1,589,744	175,672	94	0.114	0.114	0.110	0.110	0.114	-0.004	-3.509	0.110	0.109	0.110	0.100	19,250,000
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	79,646	15,796	26	0.236	0.236	0.236	0.236	0.262	-0.026	-9.924	0.236	0.236	0.236	0.100	345,173,945
Total		36	193,228,047	63,449,920	9,079											

Parallel Market																
OM0000001179	MUSCAT GASES	1,830	254	2	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.139	0.130	0.009	6.923	0.139	0.120	0.139	0.100	4,170,000
OM0000002648	NATIONAL FINANCE	2,500	555	1	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.222	0.214	0.008	3.738	0.222	0.216	0.225	0.100	144,454,378
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	96,658	28,589	12	0.280	0.294	0.280	0.294	0.285	0.009	3.158	0.294	0.290	0.294	0.100	16,170,000
OM0000004776	TAKAFUL OMAN	25,000	1,500	3	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.060	0.059	0.001	1.695	0.060	0.057	0.060	0.100	15,000,000
OM0000001889	SALALAH MILLS	119,941	78,491	7	0.655	0.655	0.654	0.654	0.645	0.009	1.395	0.654	0.654	0.654	0.100	40,850,844
OM0000001897	MAJAN COLLEGE	3,322	453	2	0.137	0.137	0.136	0.136	0.135	0.001	0.741	0.136	0.136	0.139	0.100	13,464,000
OM0000001020	OMAN CHROMITE	250	1,250	1	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	0.000	0.000	5.000	0.000	4.800	1.000	18,150,000
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	39,290	23,017	5	0.598	0.600	0.581	0.581	0.581	0.000	0.000	0.581	0.581	0.581	0.100	100,887,019
OM0000002028	GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	2,381	169	1	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.071	0.070	0.071	0.100	1,491,000
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING	101,476	16,674	29	0.165	0.165	0.163	0.165	0.165	0.000	0.000	0.165	0.164	0.165	0.100	33,492,764
OM0000003711	SOHAR POWER	5,721	1,144	8	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200	0.192	0.200	0.100	4,000,000
OM0000008447	OMAN REIT FUND	140,739	14,673	27	0.105	0.105	0.103	0.105	0.105	0.000	0.000	0.105	0.104	0.105	0.100	88,880,593
OM0000001384	FINANCIAL SERVICES	945	226	2	0.239	0.239	0.239	0.239	0.240	-0.001	-0.417	0.239	0.237	0.240	0.100	478,070,000
OM0000001151	OMIPCO	4,749,398	1,102,937	265	0.234	0.235	0.230	0.233	0.234	-0.001	-0.427	0.233	0.232	0.233	0.000	1,558,624,375
OM0000001160	NATIONAL GAS	295,950	35,919	31	0.121	0.124	0.121	0.121	0.122	-0.001	-0.820	0.121	0.121	0.125	0.100	10,285,000
OM0000003281	TAAQEEN FINANCE	24,181	2,748	2	0.114	0.114	0.113	0.113	0.114	-0.001	-0.877	0.113	0.113	0.114	0.100	32,057,059
OM0000007910	AMAN REAL ESTATE	100	7	1	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.067	0.068	-0.001	-1.471	0.067	0.067	0.074	0.100	13,400,000
OM0000006989	JABAL REEF	30,843	3,281	11	0.108	0.108	0.106	0.106	0.108	-0.002	-1.852	0.106	0.105	0.107	0.100	18,444,000
OM0000008887	THE PEARL REEF	8,943	1,373	6	0.180	0.180	0.176	0.176	0.180	-0.004	-2.222	0.176	0.176	0.185	0.100	104,092,891
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT HOLDING	45,912	3,750	13	0.080	0.084	0.079	0.083	0.085	-0.002	-2.353	0.083	0.079	0.083	0.100	3,577,200
OM0000007048	MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	17,000	1,564	4	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.092	0.095	-0.003	-3.158	0.092	0.088	0.092	0.100	14,310,637
OM0000002168	AL ANWAR CERAMIC	2,622,271	424,963	298	0.169	0.169	0.157	0.157	0.164	-0.007	-4.268	0.157	0.158	0.157	0.100	34,540,000
OM0000005260	OMAN ARAB BANK	1,002,768	282,827	88	0.292	0.292	0.278	0.278	0.296	-0.018	-6.081	0.278	0.278	0.278	0.100	579,039,254
Total	23	9,338,078	2,026,546	819												


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12 killed in attack on Riyadh airport

The fatalities included four Saudi citizens and eight foreign nationals: two Bangladeshis and one each from the United States, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Palestine and Sudan

RIYADH: Twelve people were killed and 309 others injured in Saturday's attack targeting King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) said on Sunday.

The fatalities included four Saudi citizens and eight foreign nationals: two Bangladeshis and one each from the United States, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Palestine and Sudan, GACA said.

The authority said some of the injured were in critical condition and were receiving medical treatment at several hospitals across the Kingdom.

The attack also caused property damage at the airport, the extent of which is currently being assessed, the statement added.

Airport operations were temporarily suspended following the attack as authorities assessed the damage and verified the safety of airport facilities.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs urged Saudi citizens whose travel has been disrupted or who have been unable to reach their destinations due to suspended or delayed flights to King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh to contact Saudi Arabia's diplomatic missions in the countries where they are currently located for assistance and guidance.

How has the international community reacted to the Riyadh strikes?

US President Donald Trump on Saturday said he would be speak-



ing to the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed bin Salman, in the wake of the attack, which he said was "not acceptable."

Trump also said that the US was "going to look" at potentially joining Saudi strikes against the rebels.

On Sunday, European leaders expressed their "shock" at the attack on Riyadh airport.

The president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said the EU stands in "solidarity with Saudi Arabia" as she condemned the "dangerous escalation."

German Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul "firmly" condemned what he described as "a terrorist act against Saudi Arabia

and civil aviation".

"Our thoughts are with the victims and I send my sincere condolences to their loved ones," he said on X. Arab Parliament Speaker Mohammed Al-Yamahi also condemned the continued attacks, which resulted in deaths and injuries. He stressed that targeting airports and vital civilian facilities constitutes a violation of international law and international humanitarian law, as well as a breach of the rules guaranteeing the protection of civilians and civilian facilities.

He reaffirmed the Arab Parliament's full solidarity with the Kingdom and its support for all

IATA condemns attacks on Riyadh airport

MUSCAT: The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has strongly condemned the attacks on King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh on Saturday, October 10, expressing condolences to the families of those killed and others affected by the incident. "We extend our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those who lost their lives, and to all those affected by the tragic attacks on King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh on Saturday October 10th," said Kamil Alawadhi, IATA's Regional Vice-President for Africa and the Middle East.

IATA stressed that civil aviation must be protected from attacks, emphasising that passengers, airports, aircraft and aviation personnel must never be targeted.

"Civil aviation, including passengers, airports, aircraft and aviation personnel, must never be a target. The protection of civil aviation is enshrined in international law and is a fundamental obligation of all parties," Alawadhi said.

The statement comes after a deadly attack on Riyadh's international airport on Saturday, which Saudi civil aviation authorities said killed 12 people and injured 309 others.

measures it takes to protect its autonomy, territorial security, and the safety of citizens and residents. He emphasized that the Kingdom's

security is an integral part of Arab national security and that any threat to it endangers the region's security and stability.

He called on the international community, particularly the UN Security Council, to intervene to stop these attacks, ensure they are not repeated, and hold those responsible accountable.

The Syrian Arab Republic also strongly condemned the attacks targeting of King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, describing it as a violation of Saudi Arabia's autonomy and a direct threat to its security and stability, as well as to the safety of civilians, civilian facilities and air navigation.

In a statement issued today and reported by the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates said it extends its sincere condolences and sympathy to the leadership and people of the Kingdom and to the families of the victims of the attack, expressing its solidarity with them and wishing those injured a speedy recovery.

The ministry affirmed Syria's full solidarity with Saudi Arabia and its support for all legitimate measures the Kingdom takes to safeguard its autonomy, security, territorial integrity and interests.

Syria also stressed that Saudi Arabia's security is an integral part of its own security and that of the entire region. It underscored the need for the international community to fulfill its responsibilities and take serious steps to stop attacks targeting civilian facilities and threatening regional security and the safety of its peoples.

Brunei Darussalam has strongly condemned the attacks targeting Saudi Arabia, which struck civilians and infrastructure.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed the country's solidarity with Saudi Arabia and its support for all efforts to safeguard its autonomy and territorial integrity, as well as to preserve the sanctity of the holy sites, describing the attacks as a violation of international law and classifying them as war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Brunei Darussalam called for an immediate cessation of the attacks and urged all parties to exercise restraint and pursue dialogue to achieve lasting peace, while sincere extending condolences to the families of the victims and wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

— Agencies

LOCAL POLICE



Shooter kills 8 people and himself in Pennsylvania

PENNSYLVANIA: A man killed eight people and himself during a mass shooting at a house in Erie, Pennsylvania, local police said Saturday.

Erie Police Chief Rick Lorah said seven of the eight victims were related to the shooter, with the eighth person being a family friend. The shooter had died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound before authorities arrived at the scene.

Among the victims was a 1-year-old girl and 5-year-old boy, with a pregnant woman also dead in the shooting.

"Some scenes stay with you long after you leave them. This is one of those tragic scenes," Lorah said, describing an "eerie silence" when police arrived at the home.

The identity of the 45-year-old shooter has not yet been revealed by authorities. The motive for the massacre is also still unclear, with police pursuing an investigation.

At a press conference, Erie Mayor Daria Devlin addressed the families of the victims.

"I am so deeply sorry. What happened to you was horrific, and there is nothing that any of us can say today that will make this any easier," she said. "But you do need to know that our entire community is with you, we're grieving with you. And we are here to support you."

Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro spoke with Devlin by phone and offered his support to Erie. "I've spoken with Mayor Devlin and offered my administration's full support following the tragic mass shooting in Erie last night — killing nine of our fellow Pennsylvanians," Shapiro said in a statement post on X.

Shapiro said his "heart breaks for this family" and added that he and his wife Lori Shapiro "are praying for their loved ones and the entire Erie community."

Shapiro, a Democrat, has pushed for gun control bills in his state and signed an executive order in 2024 to reestablish the Pennsylvania Office of Gun Violence Prevention. — Agencies

MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND TOURISM

UAE reviews fee exemptions for student inventor

ABU DHABI: The Ministry of Economy and Tourism (MOET) reviewed Cabinet Resolution No. 136 of 2026 concerning the exemption of student inventors and People of Determination in the UAE from certain industrial property service fees.

The move comes as part of the Ministry's efforts to enhance the country's innovation and intellectual property (IP) ecosystem, create a supportive and stimulating environment for talent and innovators, facilitate access to IP protection services, safeguard intellectual output, and facilitate the registration and protection of industrial property rights.

Dr. Abdulrahman Hassan Al Muaini, Assistant Undersecretary for the Intellectual Property Sector at the Ministry, emphasised that the UAE has been keen to develop a comprehensive legislative and regulatory environment for the protection of industrial property rights, including patents and industrial designs, in accordance with international best practices and standards. This is particularly evident in the issuance of the Federal Law on the Regulation and Protection of Industrial Property Rights and the strengthening of international partnerships in this field, including the UAE's accession to the Locarno Agreement Establishing an International Classification for Industrial Designs. These efforts support the protection of intellectual property rights and create an attractive national environment for inventors,



entrepreneurs and companies.

He stated, "The Cabinet resolution affirms the UAE's vision of fostering creativity and innovation by supporting student inventors and People of Determination, enabling them to register their innovations with ease and protect their rights. This enhances their participation in the national intellectual property ecosystem, facilitates their access to its services, and enables them to benefit from its enablers, thereby contributing to consolidating the UAE's position as a global hub for creativity and the new economy."

He added, "The Ministry continues its efforts to develop the digital infrastructure for the IP services ecosystem, including patent, industrial design and utility certificate services. This enhances the efficiency of the services provided, contributes

to accelerating the procedures for registering and protecting intellectual property rights, and provides a more seamless and flexible experience for inventors, innovators and business owners, in alignment with the objectives of the 'We the UAE 2031' vision."

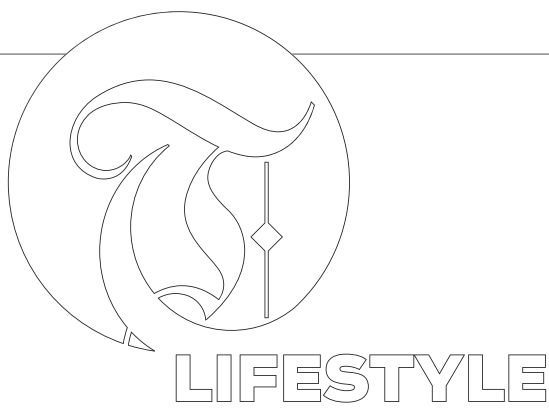
MOET began implementing the resolution on 14th September, 2026, providing a full exemption from fees for 29 services. These include 11 services benefiting student inventors and People of Determination, including applications for patent registration, industrial design registration, integrated circuit layouts, utility certificates, first substantive examination of a utility certificate, substantive re-examination of a utility certificate, publication of registration, and payment of the annual fees for the second, third,

fourth and fifth years of industrial property protection. The original fees for these services range from AED100 to AED1,000.

Additionally, the resolution provides exemptions from fees for nine additional services for People of Determination, with the original fees ranging from AED1,000 to AED9,000. It also provides fee exemptions for nine additional services for student inventors, with the original fees ranging from AED500 to AED4,500. This contributes to reducing the cost of protecting innovations and encouraging students and People of Determination to protect their innovations and the outputs of their research projects and transform them into industrial property assets with potential for further development and investment.

MOET recorded a 9 percent increase in the number of patent applications submitted during the first half of 2026 compared to the same period in 2025, while the total number of patent applications during 2025 reached approximately 4,361.

Utility certificate applications also recorded growth of 21.43 percent during the first half of 2026 compared to the same period in 2025. The total number of applications for patents, utility certificates and industrial designs registered in the country has reached 22,184 to date, reflecting the growing interest among innovators and companies in protecting industrial property rights and benefiting from them. — WAM



THE ‘END OF AN ERA’ AS GOETHE-INSTITUT IN RUSSIA CLOSES



In recent years, Moscow has declared numerous foreign foundations and organisations “undesirable” and banned them from operating in the country. However, despite the significantly deteriorated relations between Russia and the West as a result of Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine, the Goethe-Institut, which opened in Russia in 1992, had been able to continue operating.

But that’s no longer the case. Employees of the Goethe-Institut must stop working on September 13 — and staff members sent from Germany must leave the country by that date.

According to Russia’s Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, the closure of the Goethe-Institut’s three locations in Moscow, St. Petersburg and Novosibirsk comes as a response to the announced closure of the Russian House in Berlin, the minister said. Germany intends to terminate its contract with the cultural and events venue as a punitive measure. The German government holds Russia responsible for the attempted drone attack at Leipzig/Halle Airport.

“The announcement by the Russian foreign minister marks the end of an era in German-Russian cultural relations,” wrote Gesche Joost, president of the Goethe-Institut, in a press release. She said it was bad news for people in Russia and that the Goethe-Institut had connected the two countries through culture and language.

As early as 2023, the Russian Foreign Ministry had demanded the Goethe-Institut’s staff be significantly cut. Cultural exchanges with German artists were limited

extent and kept to digital formats. Nevertheless, interest in German-language courses remained high, with around 10,000 students taking part. “Our work in Russia was and remains important,” Joost said, referring to learning the German language, the many encounters and mutual understanding between people.

A fresh start after World War II

For the past 75 years, the Goethe-Institut has represented Germany abroad, promoting the German language and sharing German culture with people around the world. It was founded in 1951, at a time when Germany was seeking to rebuild international trust in the aftermath of World War II and the crimes of the Nazi regime. Originally established as the “Goethe Association for the Further Training of Foreign Teachers of German,” the organisation initially focused on inviting foreign teachers to Germany for language training.

Its mission soon expanded, however, to promoting the German language abroad.

The first Goethe-Institut opened its doors in Athens in 1952, and just a decade later, the organization had already established 54 branches around the world.

Today, the Goethe-Institut operates a global network of 154 institutions in 100 countries, employing nearly 4,500 people.

Around one million people take an official German exam at a Goethe-Institut or one of its partner organisations each year.

In a speech honoring the institute’s 75th anniversary, German President Frank-Walter Stein-



meier emphasised the significance of promoting German culture abroad, stating, “For countries like ours, which are not great powers, our foreign policy will continue to have to rest on four pillars: yes, military strength, so that we are taken seriously, but also smart diplomacy to devise solutions and forge alliances; wherever possible, an international legal order to provide a framework and direction in addition; and, fourthly, culture and science as soft power, as something we offer to the wider world.”

From classical music to jazz

One element that proved crucial to the institute’s success from its founding onward is its credibility as an independent association. Although two-thirds of its funding stems from the German Foreign Office, the organisation itself determines its programmes — and over the decades, these programmes have regularly been adapted to be in step with the prevailing political and social climate.

The institute promptly made its ambitions clear to expand its scope beyond mere language instruction by striving to provide a more comprehensive picture of Germany through a range of cultural and informational programmes. “And it was also very clear that this was not about exporting so-called German culture to the world,” explained Gesche Joost, president of the Goethe-Institut since 2024. “On the contrary — the aim was to reflect on how we

could have a fresh start and how we want to shape society and the future together.”

In its early years, the institute’s cultural programmes deliberately drew on Germany’s rich heritage in the areas of classical music and literature. Figures such as Schiller, Bach and Beethoven had lost none of their international appeal despite the Nazi era.

Then, in the 1960s, German jazz was a hit among the institute’s cultural exports — with musician and composer Klaus Doldinger and his band touring the globe.

Over the decades, Nobel Prize-winning authors Günter Grass, Heinrich Böll and Herta Müller also traveled internationally on behalf of the Goethe-Institut.

With the spirit of change ushered in by the generation of 1968, with flower power and student protests, the institute’s profile changed once again, and it increasingly incorporated critical viewpoints on social issues into its programmes, including efforts to critically examine Germany’s Nazi past.

A space for dialogue

In this period, West Germany was redefining itself under Social Democratic Chancellor Willy Brandt. In 1970, sociologist Ralf Dahrendorf, then parliamentary state secretary at the foreign office, announced a new set of guiding principles. Cultural policy was to become the “third pillar of foreign policy.”

But Dahrendorf didn’t simply

its German courses there: When an air raid alert sounds, in-person classes are moved to a shelter. A range of digital and hybrid options are also available if necessary.

The ‘turning point’ has already come

“I have the impression that working under crisis conditions has become the norm in many regions,” Gesche Joost explained. “Either because democracy is being pushed back, because colleagues are working under censorship or because they are being threatened by armed conflicts.” In many Goethe-Instituts, she said, the much-discussed Zeitenwende — or “turning point” — has long been reality.

This term entered public discourse after a famous speech by former German Chancellor Olaf Scholz after the war in Ukraine broke out in 2022 and refers to the dawn of an era marked by geopolitical turmoil in Europe.

“We’ve recognised that we’re important partners for civil society in crisis regions. At the same time, we have to make sure that we act sensitively and diplomatically so that we don’t get expelled,” added Joost.

In times where freedom of cultural expression, freedom of speech as well as science and education are increasingly coming under pressure, the Goethe-Institut plans to continue providing spaces for dialogue where open debate, critical reflection and cultural exchange remain possible.

Meanwhile, Germany’s position on the Middle East conflict is currently making the organisation’s work more challenging in many countries. Some partners in the Arab world have suspended their cooperation as a result, while Goethe-Institut events have seen boycotts elsewhere.

“Our task then is to explain the German position and the history behind it, but also to show the debates taking place on the issue within Germany,” Joost said. “At the same time, we also convey the criticism coming from many countries back to Germany.”

The Goethe-Institut’s work has also been made more difficult in recent years due to deep cuts in federal funding, forcing it to restructure and even shut down some locations. At the same time, integrating Germany’s growing number of foreign skilled workers presents new challenges; Joost feels her institute plays a crucial role here. “We see that many foreign skilled workers see a future for themselves in Germany. But settling into life in Germany is not always easy,” she said. “To support them, we have our welcome coaches who are available to answer questions about living and working in Germany and provide guidance, especially in the early stages. That is an important contribution the Goethe-Institut can make in Germany.” —bw

wish to give culture a higher profile. The Goethe-Institut was one of the last German institutions still operating in Russia. However, following Moscow’s decision to close its offices, all employees will have to stop working by mid-September

SPORTS

Verstappen takes maiden Singapore GP pole as Hamilton misses out

Verstappen’s pole completed a remarkable turnaround at a circuit that had previously eluded him. Before Saturday, Singapore was the only venue on the current Formula 1 calendar where the four-time world champion had never won

SINGAPORE: Max Verstappen continued his dominance Saturday at the Singapore Grand Prix by claiming his first pole position at the Marina Bay Street Circuit, edging Ferrari’s Charles Leclerc after earlier winning the weekend’s Sprint race.

The Red Bull driver set a fastest lap of 1 minute, 31.373 seconds, beating Leclerc by just 0.054 seconds, with Lewis Hamilton third in the other Ferrari.

Verstappen’s pole completed a remarkable turnaround at a circuit that had previously eluded him. Before Saturday, Singapore was the only venue on the current Formula 1 calendar where the four-

time world champion had never won, but he broke that drought with victory in the Sprint after having also topped Friday’s Sprint qualifying session.

“Very happy to be on pole because this is the one I wanted,” said Verstappen.

“The car has been pretty strong all weekend. There are always things that can be better but it was enough for pole. “We have been on a positive trend, so for us it’s very special to take pole here.”

Qualifying took place on a dry track after a torrential downpour before the Sprint had delayed the start of that race.

Hamilton had appeared the man



to beat in the opening two segments, topping both Q1 and Q2 as he pursued his first Grand Prix pole position since the 2023 Hungarian Grand Prix, when he was driving for Mercedes.

The seven-time world champion set a time of 1:31.529 in Q2, 0.110 seconds quicker than Verstappen, raising hopes of Ferrari’s first pole position of the 2026 season.

However, Verstappen found more pace when it mattered, setting the benchmark on his first run in Q3 with a lap of 1:31.373, putting

him 0.123 seconds ahead of Hamilton. Neither driver improved on their second runs, with Hamilton suffering a slide in the final sector that cost him around two-tenths of a second.

Leclerc, meanwhile, produced a late improvement to split the pair and secure a front-row start alongside Verstappen.

Championship leader Kimi Antonelli qualified fourth in his Mercedes, ahead of McLaren’s Lando Norris and George Russell in the second Mercedes.

However, Russell is set to start Sunday’s race from the back of the grid after exceeding his permitted allocation of power unit components following an engine failure at last weekend’s Bahrain Grand Prix in Malaysia.

McLaren’s Oscar Piastri qualified seventh, followed by Alpine’s Pierre Gasly and Racing Bulls teammates Liam Lawson and Arvid Lindblad.

Earlier, the opening segment was disrupted by mechanical problems for Racing Bulls driver

Isack Hadjar, who twice reported losing power and gears before failing to set a competitive lap time.

“The engine is off,” Hadjar told his team as he slowed on track, briefly triggering yellow flags. Although he managed to get moving again, the problem returned, leaving him unable to set a time and consigning him to last place.

In Q2, Nico Hulkenberg, Oliver Bearman, Ocon, Carlos Sainz, Gabriel Bortoleto and Franco Colapinto were eliminated, with the latter suffering a sizeable slide on his final attempt that prevented him from improving.

In addition to Hadjar, Fernando Alonso, Alex Albon, Lance Stroll, Sergio Perez and Valtteri Bottas were also eliminated in Q1.

Alonso is also set to start from the back after an engine change, while Esteban Ocon narrowly avoided the barriers after locking up and complaining of a lack of brakes. Stroll suffered a similar moment.

Verstappen will now seek to complete a clean sweep of the Singapore weekend in Sunday’s Grand Prix, having already claimed sprint pole, sprint victory and Grand Prix pole at a circuit where he had previously never reached the top step of the podium.

25-YEAR-OLD

NZ pacer O’Rourke to miss home series against India as injury rehab continues

WELLINGTON: Pacer Will O’Rourke will be missing the home series against India on Saturday as he continues his rehab for injuries to his left hamstring and calf.

O’Rourke had made a comeback for the Black Caps earlier this year after a back stress fracture kept him sidelined for seven months.

He then endured a bout with a hamstring tear on the last day of the third Test against England, as New Zealand clinched the ICC World Test Championship series 2-1, as per ICC. The 25-year-old strained his calf during a training session in late August.

New Zealand head coach Rob Walter explained the decision to rest O’Rourke ahead of a major tour that includes a two-match series as part of the current WTC cycle.

“It’s obviously disappointing for Will to have to miss such a marquee tour at home against India,” said Walter.

“He was set to feature in both the ODI and Test series, but following subsequent discussions, we all agreed it was best for him to take some more time to rehabilitate both injuries and safely build up his bowling loads.”

“Our pace bowling resources will be critical over the next few months, so we are taking a conservative approach to Will’s return to ensure he’s fully fit before he takes the field again.”

“Ideally he will be able to return for Canterbury in the Plunket Shield in late December, and in a perfect world he will be ready to



go for the opening Test against Australia in Perth on December 9,” he signed off.

New Zealand Cricket have also added in a statement that they will announce their ODI squad against India on October 10.

The two teams will kickstart a multi-format tour with five T20Is beginning October 22. They will then play as many ODIs as possible from November 4 as the two teams prepare for next year’s ICC Men’s Cricket World Cup. Lastly, the two will square off in a two-match World Test Championship series starting November 19.

Series schedule

First T20I:

22 October, Christchurch

Second T20I:

24 October, Christchurch

Third T20I:

27 October, Wellington

Fourth T20I:

30 October, Auckland

Fifth T20I:

1 November, Hamilton

First ODI:

4 November, Auckland

Second ODI:

7 November, Wellington

Third ODI:

10 November, Hamilton

Fourth ODI:

13 November, Mount Maunganui

Fifth ODI:

15 November, Mount Maunganui

First Test:

19-23 November, Wellington

Second Test:

27 November-1 December, Christchurch.

CONTROVERSIAL EXIT

Portuguese FA provisionally suspends Cristiano Ronaldo after national exit fiasco

LISBON : Portuguese football legend Cristiano Ronaldo has been handed a provisional suspension by the country’s football federation after his controversial exit from the national camp during the UEFA Nations League, with disciplinary proceedings opened against the 41-year-old, according to Goal.com.

The Portuguese striker left the national camp 24 hours before their match against Denmark, after he was benched in the previous game against Norway.

The Portuguese Football Federation’s disciplinary council suspended the Al Nassr star on a non-automatic basis, with the case classified as “urgent”. This is the first sanction against him pending the end of the investigation and final penalty, as per Goal.com.

The Portuguese football governing body said in an official statement, as reported by newspaper ‘A Bola’, that the decision followed a deliberation issued by the non-professional section on Friday. Ronaldo was already subject to automatic suspension on a provisional basis till the proceedings opened.

The council added a precautionary provisional suspension that was not applied automatically, while granting the case an urgent status. The case has been referred to the federation’s disciplinary investigation committee. The details will stay confidential till the investigation ends.

The 41-year-old Portuguese legend was part of Al Nassr’s trophy-winning set-up when Jorge Jesus was the manager of the Saudi club. Tensions between Ronaldo and the coaching staff reached their peak



when Portugal played Norway during the UEFA Nations League.

Ahead of the match, Cristiano Ronaldo was instructed to warm up with expectations of featuring in the later half of the contest. However, Jesus eventually decided against bringing him onto the pitch, leaving the striker frustrated on the bench.

While Jesus claimed that Ronaldo was benched due to tactical reasons, it only added to the growing rift between the once-close coach-player pair. Following a breakdown in communication with Jesus over his role in the current squad, Ronaldo left the national team camp early.

As per the Portuguese football governing body’s disciplinary regulations, Ronaldo is at risk of a



suspension ranging from one to six months, coupled with a fine, if his departure from the camp is found to be unjustified.

The regulations stipulate that “Any player who, after being lawfully called up, leaves without justification or does not attend a training session, a match, or any national team activity, or anything connected to the sporting representation of the Portuguese Football Federation or Portugal, shall be punished with a suspension ranging between one month and six months, and in addition, if the player is a professional, with a fine ranging between 5 and 10 accounting units.”

For Ronaldo, the potential fine range is between 500 and 1,000 euros.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF LEGENDS

Bangladesh gave us little scare: Chris Gayle on West Indies Champions’ WCL win

DUBAI: West Indies legend Chris Gayle praised his team’s batting effort in their victory over Bangladesh in the ongoing World Championship of Legends (WCL) Season 3, saying the match offered an entertaining display of cricket.

Gayle, who scored a fantastic half-century for the West Indies Champions, said Bangladesh also batted well to post a challenging total of 219 runs before he and Chadwick Walton laid the foundation for the chase, which Walton eventually finished.

Speaking to ANI on the sidelines of WCL Season 3, Gayle said the contest was closely fought and credited both teams with an entertaining encounter.

“I wouldn’t say we outpowered Bangladesh. Bangladesh played some really, really good cricket to score 219 runs. That’s brilliant. Rony Talukdar for the Bangladesh

team batted well, and the captain Mahmudullah batted really, really well as well, so they gave us a little scare. But chasing 200 runs, we needed a good start. Myself and Lendl kind of set the foundation, and then eventually Chadwick Walton came and finished the innings for us,” Gayle told ANI.

“But overall it was a very good game, and I think the fans really, really and truly enjoyed that game. Two games played, over 800 runs scored, so it’s a fantastic day for cricket,” he added, while also referring to West Indies’ memorable win over India in the second T20I, where the visitors chased down the massive target of 250 runs.

Gayle also pointed to the batting-friendly conditions, acknowledging that the high-scoring contest was a tough outing for the bowlers while expressing hope that West Indies would maintain their mo-



mentum in the next match against Australia.

“Hard luck to the bowlers, but it was a very good wicket to bat on as well, so, you know, we’re glad

we got a great display of cricket out there yesterday. So hopefully we can continue that tomorrow against Australia because things are getting a bit heated now, so

we’ve got to stay in it,” Gayle said.

Meanwhile, West Indies Champions owner Ajay Sethi highlighted the contribution of players to the success and commercial growth of

the Indian Premier League (IPL), arguing that the cricketers themselves play a major role in building the league’s value.

Sethi said the contribution of players from the West Indies and other cricketing nations should be recognised, as their performances help make the IPL a successful competition.

“I think players are also performing. IPL also benefits from these players. If there are no players, if you don’t have an actor, it’s not only about the IPL making money. I think the players contribute a lot; it’s the West Indies and the rest of the boards: Australia, England.

“Everyone who’s performing in the IPL- that’s what makes the IPL’s valuation of 1.6 billion, 7 billion. I think players play a huge role in the success of the IPL, and all the players,” Sethi said.

Arsenal, Chelsea resume campaign post international break with dominant wins



While the Gunners came back from behind to register a 2-1 win over Leeds United, Chelsea had a goal-fest against Bournemouth, thrashing them 5-1



LONDON: Defending champions Arsenal and Chelsea registered thumping wins at their respective home venues to resume their Premier League campaigns with a bang following an international break on Saturday.

While the Gunners came back from behind to register a 2-1 win over Leeds United, Chelsea had a goal-fest against Bournemouth, thrashing them 5-1.

With the defending champions

playing at Emirates Stadium, the Gunners wanted to avoid an early slump after a 3-0 loss to Brighton before the international break. David Raya made sure Arsenal avoided an attack from Leeds, making four saves to deny the Whites a lead.

With the first half being a goal-less affair, a cross from Gudmundsson across the goal came to James Justin, who wasted no time in driving it in the net 10 minutes

after half-time, as per Sky Sports.

However, the defending champions showed their class and temperament, with Riccardo Calafiori tapping in after a cross from Noni Madueke put across the penalty area by Ben White. The scores were level in the 62nd minute.

In the 70th minute, Bruno Guimarães, who had come off the bench, scored the winner for Arsenal, being teed up by a flick from Declan Rice.

Man City and Arsenal now stand at 15 points each, with Man City's unbeaten record and goal difference keeping them at the top.

On the other side at Stamford Bridge, two stunning goals from Jordan Henderson moved Chelsea to fifth spot with a win over Bournemouth.

After a hiccup against Brentford before the international break, Chelsea's attacking gameplay was on full display, with

Henderson scoring in the second minute, receiving the ball from Cole Palmer, who went inside the box and cut back the ball to the English midfielder.

Just a minute later, a shot from Morgan Rogers flicked off Antonio Silva and doubled the lead. A VAR check followed on Joao Pedro, who was found jostling with Silva, but the goal stood to the delight of the home crowd.

With the scoreline 2-0 at the

break in favour of Chelsea, Pedro slammed a third 30 seconds into the second half.

A strike from Evanilson in the 51st minute gave Chelsea a ray of hope, but Pedro's second strike in the 67th minute gave Chelsea some more cushion. In the 70th minute, after Palmer was fouled, Henderson delivered a stunning free-kick goal from 25 yards, with the scoreline left undisturbed till the end.

CONSISTENT PERFORMANCES

Carlos Brathwaite hails Shai Hope, lauds Windies' 'never-say-die attitude'

DUBAI: West Indies all-rounder and 2016 T20 World Cup winner Carlos Brathwaite heaped praise on Shai Hope for his unbeaten match-winning century against India during the second T20I, calling for greater appreciation for his consistent performances over the years.

Hope smashed a 45-ball century, helping Windies pull off a memorable 250-run chase, their highest in T20Is against India. His knock helped the visitors level the ongoing five-match series 1-1. This century continues Hope's string of tons against India as he scored his third century on the tour, including two in the ODIs. Two of these three tons have come in a winning cause.

Speaking to ANI on the sidelines of the ongoing World Championship of Legends (WCL) Season 3, Brathwaite said Hope's performances had long been appreciated in the Caribbean and expressed happiness that the batter was now receiving greater recognition worldwide.

"Shai Hope has been phenomenal for several years. I think he has more international centuries in India than Shreyas Iyer, someone who I think is bordering on world-class. I think Shai Hope definitely is world-class, and I think what we know in the Caribbean, people around the world are now appreciating and acknowledging, maybe because it is in India, the biggest market," Brathwaite told ANI.

"I'm glad to see that his star that we in the Caribbean love and appreciate and adore is now being appreciated and adored worldwide as well. So, fantastic knock by him, and I think sometimes we probably think it's another run-of-the-mill day for the sensational Shai Hope, but we do need to take a step back and appreciate how good he has been, for how long he has been this good as well," he added.

Asked whether India's bowling plans or fielding contributed



to the defeat, Brathwaite pointed towards the increasingly batter-friendly nature of pitches in modern T20 cricket, arguing that bowlers often receive little assistance.

"Pitches. I think it's quite difficult now to appreciate run scoring because you got T20 games where people score 240 and it being chased down. I do love a good 160, 170 where bowlers have a little bit of the rub of the green, but now it just seems to be bowling machines versus batters. So to be honest, you can't look at any one team and say the bowlers are that bad because there's no assistance," he said.

Drawing a comparison with India's own batting exploits against the West Indies, Brathwaite said teams should appreciate exceptional performances rather than focus solely on the opposition's shortcomings.

The 2016 T20 World Cup winner drew a comparison with India's Test and ODI skipper Shubman Gill's sensational innings during the second ODI, where the star opener smashed an unbeaten record-breaking 223, which helped the Men in Blue to chase down a historic 406.

"With that being said, and I mean when India chased down 400, there's not much you could have said about the West Indies bowling. You just appreciated the centuries, especially the double from Shubman Gill during the

second ODI. So, when West Indies chased 250, I don't want to look into the Indian dressing room and say they could have done something right or wrong," the 38-year-old said.

Brathwaite highlighted the contributions of Hope, Sherfane Rutherford and Romario Shepherd, while praising the team's resilience amid a challenging period on and off the field.

The 38-year-old also pointed to the West Indies' recent performances against India, including scoring 405 runs in the second ODI and then winning the third ODI, and bouncing back from a defeat in the opening T20I to secure a memorable victory in the second match.

"I just want to appreciate Shai Hope, Sherfane Rutherford, Romario Shepherd, and just a never-say-die attitude from the West Indies. Been a difficult tour, on and off the field. A lot of reports from back home financially, and to keep the resilience that they've shown so far, putting in the performances that they have, scoring 400 in the second ODI, winning the third ODI and then losing the first T20I before bouncing back with a memorable win in the second T20I. So we need to celebrate West Indies cricket," Brathwaite signed off.

The third T20I between India and West Indies is scheduled for Sunday.

INDIAN BATTING STAR

Abhishek Sharma 33 runs away from 2,000 T20I runs

INDORE: Indian batting star Abhishek Sharma is just 33 runs away from being the sixth player to join the team's 2,000 T20I run club ahead of the third T20I against West Indies on Sunday.

Abhishek has managed explosive, but rather modest outings in the series so far, with scores of 21 and 20. The third T20I will take place at Holkar Stadium in Indore, with the series level at 1-1 courtesy of a Shai Hope masterclass at Ranchi, which helped WI chase down a massive 250 runs.

In 64 matches and 63 innings, Abhishek has made 1,967 runs at an average of 32.24 and a strike rate of 194.94, with three centuries and 13 fifties, with a best score of 135.

This year in 31 T20Is, Abhishek has been solid, with 852 runs made at an average of 28.40 and a strike rate of 204.80, including a century and seven fifties, with a best score of 108, a 30-ball ton against Afghanistan, which is the fastest century in T20Is by a batter from a Test-playing nation.

The other five members of In-



dia's 2,000-run club are: Rohit Sharma (4,231 runs), Virat Kohli (4,188 runs), Suryakumar Yadav (3,272 runs), Hardik Pandya (2,288 runs) and KL Rahul (2,265 runs).

Squads:
India Squad: Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson(w), Ishan Kishan, Shivam Dube, Shreyas Iyer(c), Tilak Varma, Naman Dhir, Axar Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Kuldeep

Yadav, Mayank Yadav, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Prince Yadav, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Ravi Bishnoi

West Indies Squad: Shai Hope(w/c), Kamil Pooran, Shimron Hetmyer, Rovman Powell, Sherfane Rutherford, Romario Shepherd, Roston Chase, Shamar Springer, Gudakesh Motie, Akeal Hosein, Shamar Joseph, Quentin Sampson, Matthew Forde, Amir Jangoo, Keemo Paul.

FOOTBALL

Fellhauer sets Bundesliga scoring record as Augsburg holds Bayern

BERLIN: Bayern Munich missed the chance to move top of the Bundesliga after drawing 2-2 at Augsburg on Saturday, where Robin Fellhauer scored the fastest goal in league history after just eight seconds. Manuel Neuer miscontrolled the ball following kickoff before his attempted clearance struck Fellhauer, who collected the rebound and rolled it into an empty net.

Bayern dominated possession but struggled to break down Augsburg's defense. Harry Kane headed over before striking the crossbar from

close range shortly before halftime, while Juma Bah missed an opportunity to double the hosts' advantage. Luis Diaz had an effort disallowed for offside early in the second half, but Bayern eventually equalized when Ismael Saibari converted Kane's pass in the 55th minute.

Augsburg regained the lead nine minutes later. Neuer failed to hold Calvin Brackelmann's shot, allowing Rodrigo Ribeiro to turn home the rebound.

Bayern continued to press, with further efforts from Serge Gnabry

and Diaz ruled out for offside before substitute Nathaniel Brown converted another Kane assist to make it 2-2 in the 80th minute.

Gnabry then struck the post and later hit the crossbar deep into stoppage time, although the latter effort was ruled out for offside.

"We had our chances. There were several goals ruled out for offside, and we made some mistakes when conceding. That's how you end up drawing 2-2. That's football," Bayern coach Vincent Kompany said.

CRICKET

Legend, unique, phenomenal: Chris Gayle hails Virat Kohli

DUBAI: Former West Indies cricketer Chris Gayle hailed Virat Kohli, calling him a "phenomenal" player and expressing hope that he continues as long as he can in international cricket.

Gayle, who shared the changing room with Kohli during his days with Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) in the Indian Premier League (IPL), spoke to ANI on the sidelines of the World Championship of Legends (WCL), where he is representing West Indies Champions.

Speaking about Kohli, he said, "The man is a legend, the man is unique, he is phenomenal. I cannot find any other word to actually uplift Virat because, as I said, everybody is calling him the King Kohli,



he has done so much for the game of cricket as well, and hopefully he can carry on as long as possible, especially in the international scene. He has been dominant in the IPL as well. So, like I said, great guy, great person."

This year in nine ODIs, Kohli has scored 552 runs in nine innings at an average of 69.00 and a strike rate of 117.94, with two centuries and three fifties, with a best score of 139*. During the recent ODIs against West Indies this month, he scored 168 runs across three innings, including an explosive 88-ball 139* in the first ODI while chasing 290-odd runs. Kohli is the second-highest run-scorer in ODIs of all time, with 15,109 runs at an average of 58.78, with 55

centuries and 79 fifties and a best score of 183.

The run chaser will continue his journey as an ODI-exclusive player with an eye on the 2027 ODI World Cup. He will feature in a five-match ODI series against New Zealand away from home from November 4 onwards, and then in three ODIs against Sri Lanka at home from December 13 onwards, to end the calendar year.

On West Indies' (WI) record-breaking run-chase against India in the second T20I, which saw the two-time T20 World Cup champions chase 250 courtesy of a 45-ball ton from skipper Shai Hope and a monstrous 84 in 37 balls from Sherfane Rutherford, Gayle lauded the batters and highlighted the

lack of help for bowlers in Indian conditions. "I must say well done to Shai Hope, the captain, leading from the front, he is in superb form as well. I saw Rutherford got an 80-odd as well and Shepherd, you know, chipping in with some runs. But it is actually, you know, great for cricket. But I think the bowlers are a bit upset because 240, 250 becomes easy to chase down now in T20 cricket. And it just goes to show that sometimes the toss is a bit important as well, especially in India conditions.

"The toss is very important because those wickets are very flat, and then you have the dew factor as well, so it is going to be even more difficult for bowlers to get the hold of that ball. So, as I said,

I am happy the West Indies have levelled the series, and hopefully they can go on to win the toss and win the series again," he signed off.

Between 2017 and 2023, Hope featured in 26 T20Is, scoring 493 runs in 24 innings at an average of 22.41 and a strike rate of 124.49, with two fifties. His T20I stats have seen a massive glow-up since 2024, scoring 1,404 runs in 46 matches and innings at an average of 37.95 and a strike rate of 145.95, with two centuries and 11 fifties and a best score of 102*.

Hope is WI's fifth-highest T20I run-getter with 1,897 runs in 72 matches and 70 innings at an average of 32.15 and a strike rate of 139.69, with two centuries and 13 fifties.

ROUND-UP

BankDhofar Endowment Plan combines disciplined savings with long-term financial protection

Underwritten by Dhofar Insurance Company SAOG, the Endowment Plan is designed to help customers build savings for important life goals such as children's education, retirement planning, family milestones, and other future financial needs

MUSCAT: BankDhofar continues to strengthen its commitment to helping customers achieve their long-term financial goals with the promotion of its Endowment Plan, a solution that combines savings with life protection to provide greater financial security for individuals and families.

Underwritten by Dhofar Insurance Company SAOG, the Endow-



ment Plan is designed to help customers build savings for important life goals such as children's education, retirement planning, family milestones, and other future financial needs.

The plan brings together the benefits of disciplined savings and insurance protection in a single solution. Customers can choose a policy term ranging from 1 to 25 years, with 100% of the selected sum assured guaranteed at maturity, subject to policy terms and con-

ditions. In addition, any bonuses declared under the policy may further enhance the maturity benefit.

With contributions starting from just OMR50 per month, the Endowment Plan is accessible to a broad range of customers.

Premium payment options include monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual modes, while a single-premium option is also available.

One of the plan's key features is its protection benefit. In the event

of the policyholder's death during the policy term, future premiums are waived while the full maturity benefit remains payable at the end of the selected term.

This helps ensure that the customer's intended financial objective can still be achieved, even in unforeseen circumstances.

Customers can further enhance their protection through optional benefits such as Family Income Benefit, Immediate Family Support Benefit, and Total and Perma-

nent Disability coverage.

Under the Family Income Benefit, an annual payment equivalent to 10% of the applicable rider sum assured will be paid for up to 10 years, helping provide financial stability to beneficiaries.

The plan also offers flexibility to accommodate changing financial circumstances.

A 60-day grace period is available for missed premiums, and policies may be reinstated within 24 months, subject to applicable

conditions.

Once a surrender value has been established, policyholders may also access loans of up to 80% of the surrender value.

Available to both Omani nationals and expatriates holding valid residency permits, the Endowment Plan is open to customers aged between 18 and 54 years, with worldwide coverage throughout the policy term and a maximum maturity age of 70 years.

Ashraf Khalid Al Battashi, Head of Products, Segmentation, Cards & Bancassurance: "At BankDhofar, we believe financial planning is about preparing today for life's future opportunities and responsibilities. The Endowment Plan provides customers with a practical and disciplined way to build savings while ensuring protection for their loved ones, helping them pursue their long-term aspirations with greater confidence."

The Endowment Plan reflects BankDhofar's broader focus on supporting customers beyond day-to-day banking through solutions that encourage long-term financial wellbeing.

By combining guaranteed capital at maturity, disciplined savings, life protection, and optional family benefits, the plan offers a comprehensive pathway towards achieving important life goals with confidence and peace of mind.

For more information, customers can visit any BankDhofar branch, contact the BankDhofar Contact Centre, or visit www.bankdhofar.com.

CULINARY FESTIVAL

A Michelin journey through the Sultanate of Oman: Al Baleed Culinary Festival returns for its fifth edition

OMAN: Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara proudly announces the fifth edition of the Al Baleed Culinary Festival, a month-long celebration of gastronomy taking place throughout November 2026. Salalah's leading gastronomy festival brings together culinary talent from MICHELIN-recognised venues, acclaimed international chefs and Omani culinary voices from across Minor Hotels in Oman. Supported by key sponsors including the Experience Oman, Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, Dhofar Municipality, and Amouage; the programme spans seven signature dinner dates, artisan pastry experiences and collaborations between visiting chefs, resort talent and sister properties, creating a journey that moves from global technique to the flavours and traditions of Oman.

At the heart of the 2026 edition are two distinctive culinary names. Chef Osman Sezener, founder and Executive Chef of OD Urla in İzmir, arrives in Salalah from a restaurant awarded both a MICHELIN Star and a MICHELIN Green Star. He is joined by Frankie Wong, winner of the MICHELIN Guide Young Chef Award 2025, whose cuisine blends French technique with Japanese and Hong Kong influences. The wider line-up reflects a broader collaboration across the MINOR Hotels group, bringing together culinary talent from sister properties in Oman and beyond. Joining the festival are Chef Marco Van Rutten, Executive Chef of Anantara Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky Amsterdam; Chef Mohamed Al Balushi of Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort; Chef Reem Al Rahbi from Tivoli La Vie Muscat; and Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara's own Omani talents, Chef Ammar Al Harthi and Chef Khalood Abdullah Jamaan Khazana. The programme also welcomes acclaimed pastry artisan Chef Nouel Catis as a special returning guest.

Omani culinary heritage takes centre stage across two special evenings that also form part of the resort's 10th Anniversary celebrations. On 7 November 2026, Chef Ammar Al Harthi and Chef Khalood Abdullah Jamaan Khazana from Anantara Salalah will present a four-hands traditional



Omani dinner at Sakalan, rooted in the flavours, ingredients and cultural stories of Dhofar. The evening will feature live traditional Omani entertainment.

The international programme opens on 12 November 2026 with East Meets Elegance, a six-hands Asian fusion dinner at Mekong bringing together Frankie Wong, and Anantara Salalah's own Chef Elvis Lai and Chef Raveevan Ka-

hawan. The collaboration will explore the meeting point between French refinement and Asian culinary traditions through a menu created exclusively for the festival. On 13 November 2026, Frankie Wong returns to Mekong for a solo dinner that places his own culinary identity at centre stage. Both evenings will be complemented by live handpan performances, creating an atmospheric setting for the

two-night showcase.

Returning following his participation in the 2025 edition, Chef Marco Van Rutten brings European refinement back to Salalah as Executive Chef of Anantara Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky Amsterdam, home to The White Room, a restaurant holding one MICHELIN Star. Recently crowned winner of the 2026 Minor Hotels Europe & Americas Chef Masters League, he

brings award-winning creativity and signature culinary expertise to this year's festival. On 19 November 2026, he will join Anantara Salalah's executive chef Massimiliano Ascione for a four-hands fusion dinner at Mekong, followed by a solo dinner on 20 November 2026. The two evenings reflect the festival's focus on collaboration across the Anantara family, pairing international experience with the culinary character of Dhofar.

Chef Osman Sezener takes the spotlight on 24 November 2026 with Soul of the Aegean at Mekong. Drawing on the philosophy of OD Urla, his restaurant in İzmir recognised with one MICHELIN Star and a MICHELIN Green Star, the evening will celebrate seasonality, sustainability, local producers and a refined farm-to-table approach. Sezener's Aegean perspective adds another dimen-

sion to the festival's dialogue between international culinary craftsmanship and the produce-led spirit of Oman.

The festival also welcomes back Chef Nouel Catis, the pastry visionary behind SNAAP and creative mastermind of the viral Dubai Chocolate sensation. Following the phenomenal success of his Anantara Khareef Chocolate collaboration, he returns to Salalah with his signature flair for innovation and bold flavour combinations. From 25 to 28 November 2026, Chef Nouel will present an exclusive Artisan Omani Pastry Stand at Al Mina, reimagining the Sultanate's local ingredients and traditional flavours through contemporary pastry creations.

On 27 November 2026, Chef Mohamed Al Balushi of Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort and Chef Reem Al Rahbi of Tivoli La Vie Muscat will collaborate on their own four-hands celebration of Omani cuisine. The evening will feature live traditional Omani entertainment.

The 2026 programme places particular emphasis on collaboration across Minor Hotels in Oman, bringing together culinary voices from Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara, Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar Resort and Tivoli La Vie Muscat. By pairing visiting international talent with chefs working across the Sultanate, the festival creates a platform for shared learning and creative exchange while keeping Omani identity at the centre of the guest experience.

Festival dinners are priced from OMR 25 to OMR 40 per person, excluding beverages, with full and half-board supplements available for in-house guests. Chef Nouel Catis' artisan pastry experience is priced at OMR 15 per cake stand. Across the month, guests can choose between collaborative dinners, solo showcases, Omani cultural evenings and pastry-led experiences, allowing the festival to be enjoyed as individual events or as a broader culinary journey through November.

For reservations and more information, please contact Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara at +968 2322 8222 or visit the website at <https://www.anantara.com/en/al-baleed-salah/offers/al-baleed-culinary-festival-2026>



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